the national archives

(c) crown copyright

[redacted]/UNCLASSIFIED

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

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

F620841

Date opened (Date of first enclosure)
2 JAN 08

Registered file reference
D/DAS/64/16

Part No. B

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

DIVISION/ESTABLISHMENT/UNIT/BRANCH

DAS - FOI
MOD

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT
UFO's —
FOI REQUESTS
[BLOCK CAPITALS]

RECORD OF KEYWORDS:

9/7/08
2014

Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl	Referred to	Date	Min/ Encl

CLOSED 9 JULY 08

FOR DRO USE ONLY

1st Review date

2nd Review date

PA ACTION

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

RCU001741545 TNT

Produced by Forms Design Section
Design Studio DSDA (PC) KY [redacted] Section 40

[redacted]/UNCLASSIFIED

Registered File Disposal Form

MOD Form 262F
(Revised 9/01)

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc)
UFO's - FOI Requests

Reference:
(Prefix and Number):
DI D/05/64/6

Part: 8

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): Unclassified

Date of last enclosure: 09/07/08

Date closed: 09/07/08

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): FOI permanent preservation

	✔		✔
LEGAL		DEFENCE POLICY + OPERATIONS	
CONTRACTUAL		ORIGINAL COMMITTEE PAPERS	
FINANCE/AUDIT		MAJOR EQUIPMENT PROJECT	[_____]
DIRECTORATE POLICY		OTHER (Specify)	✔

PPQ = 100

(Continued overleaf)

(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: Section 40 [redacted]

Name: [redacted]
(Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: C2 Date: 6/6/11

Branch Title and Full Address:

RAF Bus Sec
HQ Air Cond
RAF High Wycombe

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)

Produced by MOD, TES TIG 5 Media Bath. Telephone: Section 40

58

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 30-06-2008-065816-004 **Expiry**: 25 July 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

I would like to see the files that contain a wide range of UFO-related documents covering the years 1978-2000.

Case for withholding information

Section 40 was directed to the National Archives website.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

We used s.21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means).

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 .....

Signature..... Section 40 .....

Date:..... 9/4/08 .....

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 09 July 2008 15:13
To: 'request-963-ea7222db@whatdotheyknow.com'
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI request.

Dear Sir,

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking to see files that contain a wide range of UFO-related documents covering the years 1978-2002. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' 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 regards to UFO-related documents covering the years 1978-2000, we think you may be referring to the records that the Ministry of Defence has just recently released to The National Archives. They are available for public viewing on The National Archives website at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Therefore, in accordance with s.21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means), of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are not able to comply with your request.

The Ministry of Defence will be transferring a further 150 files to The National Archives over the next three years in chronological order, with the oldest files being released first.

Finally, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' Reports.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 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.informationcommissoner.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E-mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk.

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

JS-06-2222-065816-004
Ext 25 JUL 08

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40 [mailto:request-963-ea7222db@whatdotheyknow.com]
Sent: 30 June 2008 02:33
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: Freedom of Information request - Records held on UFO related incidents. PS 30-06-2008-065816-004 Section 40

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to see the files that contain a wide range of UFO-related documents covering the years 1978-2002. Could you forward any links!

Kind Regards Section 40

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies: http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/help/about#officers

Is info-access-office@mod.uk the wrong address for Freedom of Information requests to Ministry of Defence? If so please let us know by emailing team@whatdotheyknow.com - we'll make sure future ones go to the right place.

From: Section 40
Sent: 09 July 2008 15:07
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI request.

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Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking if there had been any UFO sightings over Heathrow between 28 June and the 30 June 2008. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' 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 regards to your e.mail dated 30 June 2008, there have been no UFO sightings reported to us for the dates 28 June and the 30 June 2008, from the area of Heathrow in Middlesex.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that an request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E-mail das-ufo-office@mod.uk

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

01-07-2008-107820-002
EXP 29 JUL 08

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 30 June 2008 22:14
To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk
Subject: Research Enquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, June 30, 2008 at 22:14:04

---

name: Section 40 [redacted]

e-mail: Section 40 [redacted]

country: UK

informationrequest: Have any sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects seen over Heathrow been made in the last 48 hours.

submit: Send Form

56

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 09 July 2008 15:03
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI request.

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for information on extraterrestrial life and if the government/MOD believe that aliens exist and have made contact with our planet.

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

You asked if the MOD believes that aliens exist and if they have made contact with our planet. The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date, the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

With regards to your second question of asking for information on UFO/extraterrestrial phenomena, you may wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone 0208 876 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.

Finally, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' reports.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 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.

Hope your project goes OK and best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk.

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 June 2008 14:03
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 20-06-2008-102214-005 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, June 19, 2008 at 14:02:54
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtoccupation: Student

txtorganisation: -

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txttelephone: -

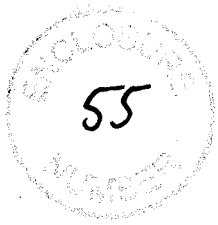
txtinforequest: To Sir/ Madam,

I am a Year 9 student in The Ridings High School and Iâ€™m studying for a controversial project about whether or not aliens exist. I would be grateful if you could send any information about extra terrestrial life, as I need to include some information from a trusted source.
I would also like to know if the government/ MoD believe that aliens exist and have already made contact with our planet.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

Section 40



AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 01-07-2008-152412-004 **Expiry**: 29 JUL 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Section 40 [redacted] wants to see all the newly released files.

Case for withholding information

Have used s.21 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means).
Have pointed him in the direction of The National Archives.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

Have used s.21.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Signature..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 9/4/08 .....

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40

St. Helens
Merseyside
Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
01-07-2008-152412-004
Date:
9 July 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for records of recently released UFO sightings. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

With regards to your request for records of recently released UFO sightings, they are available for viewing on The National Archives website at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Therefore, in accordance with s.21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means), we are not obliged to comply with your request.

However, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone 0208 876 3444.

Finally, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' reports.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 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

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: **http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.** Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

EXP : 29 JUL 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 01 July 2008 12:08
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI Written Request PS 01-07-2008-152412-004 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 at 12:07:40

---

firstname: Section 40

lastname: Section 40

occupation: customer service

org/company: vodafone uk

address1: Section 40

address2: [redacted]

towncity: st.helens

statecounty: merseyside

postzipcode: Section 40

country: Great Britain

e-mail: Section 40 [redacted]

telephone: Section 40 [redacted]

informationrequest: i understand that recently there where a number of records released regarding u.f.o's , and that as a member of the public , i could request to see some of them.

submit: Send Form

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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 17-06-2008-115008-002 Expiry: 9 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Copy of Rendlesham documents

Case for release of information

No reason not to release documents.

Some information (names addresses etc) has been withheld under exemption s.40 (personal Information)

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40

Date:..... 8/7/08 .....

NOTE: IN ORDER TO SAVE PAPER, THE FILE HAS NOT BEEN DUPLICATED HERE - SEE ENCLOSED DISK

Section 40

DAS-FOI

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

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

Section 40
Matlock Bath
Derbyshire
Section 40

Our Reference
17-06-2008-115008-002
Date
8 July 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 11 June 2008 asking for the MoD documents on the Rendlesham Incident. I enclose a copy of our file on the subject in paper format, in line with your e-mail of 8 July 2008.

Some personal information such as names, addresses and telephone numbers has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The file is a compilation file comprised of documents that were removed from their original file and placed on this file. This would account for the non sequential enclosure numbering. Although the file cover states the file was opened on 25 October 1982, it is clear that this was not the case. Sec(AS) was not in being at this time, only being formed in early 1985 and therefore no file with a reference number commencing with D/Sec(AS) could have been in existence in 1982. No record of when the file was created can be found.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 July 2008 14:26

To: Section 40

Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 17-06-2008-115008-002

Dear Section 40 thank you for your mail. A paper copy would be ideal. Is there a fee for sending this out?

Section 40

Matlock Bath
Derbyshire Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 08 July 2008 14:22

To: Section 40

Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 17-06-2008-115008-002

Dear Section 40

Your e-mail of 11 June 2008 asked whether it was possible to see the MoD documents on the alleged Rendlesham Forest incident. The MoD has a file on this subject, that I am happy to provide you with. However, I am unable to e-mail a copy to you due to its size. It is therefore available to you in a paper version or electronic version via CD. Please let me know which format you require.

Yours sincerely,

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

Section 40 [redacted]

17-06-2008-115432-002
Exp 9 Jul 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 11 June 2008 13:31
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Rendlesham forest

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would very much like to see the documents relating to the ufo sighting at Rendlesham Forest in Suffolk – would this be possible?

Best wishes,

Section 40 [redacted]
Matlock Bath
DerbyshireSection 40

FILE NOTE:

Papers released in response to this request (17-06-2008-115008-002) are available to view on the website of The National Archives (TNA) under TNA catalogue reference DEFE 24/1948/1

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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 04-07-2008-113053-002 Expiry: 28 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Copy of documents on Cosford incident previously shown on MoD website

Case for release of information

No reason not to release documents.

Some information (names addresses etc) has been withheld under exemption s.40 (personal Information)

The redactions have been updated in line with current MoD practice. This has been explained in the letter.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40

Date:..... 8/4/08 .....

NOTE: TO SAVE RESOURCES SEE ENC 78 FOR COPY OF DOCS ALREADY.

Section 40

DAS-FOI

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

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

Section 40
85416 Langenbach
Germany

Our Reference
04-07-2008-113053-002

Date

8 July 2008

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 June 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford Incident that had previously been available on the MoD website, which I enclose.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information). You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

You may also wish to know that the original file that these documents were drawn from is one of 160 due for transfer to The National Archives as part of the three year programme that has recently been featured in the UK media.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40 [redacted]

04-07-2008-113053-002

EXP - 28 JUL 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 29 June 2008 18:01
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Documents about cosford 1993

Dear Sir or Madam,

by personal interest, I am investigating in UFO-occurrencies and Anti-gravitation methods. I would be interested in the once published documents of your investigation about the sightings at Cosford 1993, which are no longer available on your internet-page. ("These documents have been withdrawn from the website for copyright reasons. They are however, available on request from the following address:...") Do you see a chance to send me the documents via email?

Sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]
Air Traffic Controller ACC/UAC Munich
German Air Navigation Services

Section 40 [redacted]
85416 Langenbach
Germany

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 04 July 2008 16:23
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 04-07-2008-113053-002

Dear Section 40

yes, that would be great if you could send me the documents on a CD.
Thank you very much!
Greetings,

Section 40 [redacted]
85416 Langenbach
Deutschland / Germany

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 04 July 2008 11:41

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 04-07-2008-113053-002

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 June 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford incident that had previously been available on the MoD website.

I am unable to e-mail these documents to you as they are too large. However, if you agree, I can send you a CD with them.

Please let me know if you are content with this.

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

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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 10-06-2008-150228-002 Expiry: 08 Jun 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Details of any investigations into UFOs to date

2. Details of UFO incident in March 1993

Case for release of information

Information requested at 1 above should be withheld on the grounds of cost

1 file takes 1 hr to read
160 files take 160 hours
160 hrs @ £25 = £4000

Clarification of request sought for 2 above but have offered Cosford documents if he can confirm he wants them.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40

Date: 9/4/08

1.

AWAITING CLARIFICATION OF QUERY

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

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

Section 40
Crawley
West Sussex
Section 40

Our Reference
10-06-2008-150228-002

Date

8 July 2008

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 10 June 2008 asking for details of any MoD classified or unclassified investigations into UFOs in the UK to date. Additionally, you asked for details on the incident that occurred in March 1993.

The MoD holds records relating to UFOs on some 160 files covering a period of over quarter of a century. Searching through 160 files would far 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 you could narrow the scope of your request to a particular incident or issue, I may be able to help.

However, you may be interested to know that UFO files for 1967 to 1987, and any files prior to 1967 which have survived, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. The MoD will be transferring the 160 UFO files from the Directorate of Air Staff and Defence Intelligence Staff to The National Archives as part of a three year programme. Those files covering the period 1979-92 will be released during 2008, 1993-2000 in 2009 and those from 2001 onwards will be transferred in 2010.

The MoD holds documents which I can release to you immediately on what has become known as the Cosford incident which occurred in March 1993. If this is the 1993 incident you were referring to I can forward you a copy on disk or a printed version. Please confirm this is the incident you were referring to and the format you want to receive the information in.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

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If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 10 June 2008 15:04
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 10-06-2008-150228-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 15:03:47
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: crawley

txtstatecountry: west sussex

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtinforequest: Under the Act please provide details of any M.O.D classified or declassified investigations into Unidentified Flying Objects in the United Kingdom to date.

Please provide details also on the incident which occurred in March 1993. Which was investigated by the M.O.D

Kind Regards

Section 40

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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 30-06-2008-124655-002 Expiry: 24 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Copy of file on Cosford incident - D/Sec(AS)/12/7 Part A

Case for release of information

Information should be withheld under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication)

Whilst there is public interest in the release of these documents, on balance, following a public interest test, it is felt the need to ensure an efficient orderly transfer of files in chronological order, means the information should be withheld.

The arguments surrounding the PIT are simple and there is therefore the PIT can be made at the same time as the response to the request.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 2/4/08

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

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

Section 40
Cwmbran
Gwent
Section 40

Our Reference
30-06-2008-124655-002

Date
3 July 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 June 2008 asking for a copy of the MoD file on the sightings over RAF Cosford and associated sightings which occurred on 30-31 March 1993.

The MoD file on this matter, D/Sec(AS)/12/7 Part A, is one of the files the MoD will be transferring to The National Archives as part of a programme to transfer some 160 files covering the period 1978-2007. It is not possible to state when the file will actually be transferred, but it is expected it will be within the next 12 months. Therefore, under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) the MoD is not obliged to provide you with the information you requested.

This is not the end of the matter, of course; section 22 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MOD must assess the balance of public interest in release of the information.

Whilst there is undoubtedly public interest in this file being released to the public as it will enable them to have a more informed view of the MoD's role in this incident, there is no overriding reason why the public should have the information immediately. Indeed it could be argued, that by releasing files in chronological order, the public will be able to follow the role of the MoD in a more logical and orderly fashion, and to view actions in their correct historical perspective.

It is part of effective administration of government that the publication of information is planned and managed within the department responsible. The release of this file will undermine this release process, and delay the release of other files (which other members of the public may be waiting for) as work on them would necessarily have to be put off.

Finally, the release programme itself is complicated and the release of files out of sequence will result in unnecessary confusion for the MoD, The National Archives and, indeed, the public when they are attempting to track files once they are transferred.

It is for these reasons that we do not believe it would be in the public interest to release this file at this moment. That having been said, I can provide you with a great many of the documents that have appeared on the file as they have previously been placed on the MoD internet sight, although for copyright reasons, they have now been withdrawn. If you would like to see these documents, I

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8****. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

JD-06-2006-12465-002
EXP 24 JUL 08

Section 40
Cwmbran
Gwent
Section 40

23rd June 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting copies of the file concerning the sightings over RAF Cosford and the associated sightings which occurred on March 30-31 1993.

Section 40
[redacted]

50

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 05-06-2008-102614-004 Expiry: 3 Jul 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. Copy of UFO Minsub 18 Sep 07

2. Copy of response 25 Sep 07

3. Copy of dialogue related to 1 or 2 between above dates.

4. Details of any formal minuted meetings about release of UFO files

Case for release of information

Information should be withheld under exemption s.35 (Formulation of Government Policy)

Whilst there is public interest in the release of these documents, on balance, following a public interest test, it is felt the need to ensure staff have the space to develop policy and provide frank advice to ministers, means the information should be withheld.

The arguments surrounding the PIT have been made before and there is therefore the PIT can be made at the same time as the response to the request.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05 Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 1st July 08

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 01 July 2008 15:42
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-06-2008-102614-004

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 4 June 2008 asking for a copy of the ministerial submission on the transfer of UFO files dated 18 September 2007 and the response dated 25 September 2007. Additionally, you asked for copies of any dialogue directly related to the two documents which took place between those dates. Finally, you asked for details of any formal, minuted, meetings regarding the transfer of the UFO files.

The ministerial submission and response are withheld under s.35(Formulation of Government Policy). Section 35(1)(a) of the Act provides that information may be exempt from disclosure if it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the formulation or development of government policy. The decision to proactively release such a large number of files to The National Archives (TNA), was quite clearly a matter of government policy.

This is not the end of the matter, of course; section 35 is a qualified exemption, meaning that the MOD must assess the balance of public interest in release of the information. We have done this at several levels and although the arguments are the same as outlined in my e-mailed dated 11 December 2007 in response to your FOI request 08-10-2007-090830-001, I reproduce them below:

i. There is an undoubted public interest in the public being able to assess the quality of advice being given to ministers and subsequent decision making based on that advice. Given the level of interest in the matter amongst a small but vociferous section of the public, and the probability that ill informed speculation and conspiracy theories are likely to be rife, it is reasonable that the public have a right to know why the Ministry of Defence has made its decision to release the UFO/UAP files.

ii. Greater transparency makes government more accountable to the electorate and increases trust; if by releasing these discussion papers we were to demonstrate that the decision to proceed was one taken on good advice and following a sensible debate, this may have a positive effect in increasing public confidence in government decision-making. However, if the advice and debate behind policy-making were routinely disclosed, officials may be less willing to offer frank advice or ministers may be less willing to explore the full range of policy options. There is a risk that officials could come under pressure not to challenge ideas in the formulation of policy, thus leading to poorer decision making. Ministers and officials also need to be able to conduct rigorous and candid risk assessments of their policies in a free space without constant scrutiny. Discussions surrounding the release of these files are still on going. This is a major exercise, which I believe is unique in MoD history. The MoD will be proactively placing a large number of files less that 30 years old in TNA in both paper and importantly, electronic format. The practical difficulties of this are still under discussion and may well continue to be for some time. As we work on the transfer of these files to TNA, we are coming across a number of challenges and need to be able to discuss and seek solutions without the concern that our discussions will be placed in the public domain while this process is ongoing.

Taking the above arguments into account, in this case, we believe that it would not be in the public interest to disclose the specific information you have asked for surrounding the decision to place the DIS and DAS UFO/UAP files in TNA. That having been said, I believe that you already have a clear explanation of the rational behind the transfer of these files from your previous questions. There has

already been considerable public discussion around the decision transfer our files and it is already clear that the primary reason behind the decision was the volume of FOI requests received by the MoD and that the transfer was a practical and efficient way of handling them.

Once a policy decision has been taken and the policy implemented, the position can be reconsidered and it may be that any factual background information can then be disclosed.

I am not aware of any dialogue directly related to the ministerial submission during the period in question. I do not re-call any correspondence or conversations requesting further information or clarification of any of the issues raised between the submission being sent to the Ministers outer office on 18th September and being informed of his decision on 25th September 2007.

I am aware of two formal, minuted, meetings that took place regarding the transfer of the UFO documents. The first took place on 1 October 2007 and the second on 8 January 2008. Both were concerned with the complex practical arrangements for the transfer itself, rather than the actual decision to transfer the files.

I appreciate that you will be disappointed with this response, however, if you have any more specific questions, I will attempt to answer them.

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

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If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40

05-06-POP-102614-004
EXP : 3 JUL 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 04 June 2008 23:37
To: Section 40
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Hello Section 40

As you have probably anticipated, I wish to submit the following request:

1) A copy of the ministerial submission on or about 18/9/07 seeking approval to release the UFO files held by DAS and DI55.

2) A copy of the response to (1) dated on or about 25/9/07.

3) Copies of any dialogue directly related to (1) or (2) above which took place between 18/9/07 - 25/9/07.

4) In the response to my request 01-05-2008-145035-004, you wrote in relation to meetings concerning the document release;

"The majority have been quite informal, without title or minutes"

Please can you clarify if there were any formal, minuted meetings and provide details if there were any.

Regards,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 08 July 2008 11:12
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-06-2008-102614-004

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I note that my e-mail of 1 July 2008 failed to provide the paragraphs pointing out your right to complain about the handling of your request. These are reproduced below.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Please accept my apologies for the oversight.

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

49

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 27-06-2008-083218-001 Expiry: 25 July 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1) I am looking for a copy from your files of the document that i have attached to this email.
(2) I am also looking for the material that accompanies this document which are referred to in the fore mentioned documents as 'flags'.
(3) I am also looking to obtain the voice recording that this document talks about and i am also after
(4) any other documents which are connected to this department referring to the Bentwaters Incident.
(5) I am after any more documents written by the author of the enclosed document that refers to the Bentwaters UFO Incident or
(6) any other documents that was written to the author by outside parties (such as other Department or groups or think-tanks or anything that is similar) that refers to the Bentwaters UFO Incident in December 29/30 1980

Case for release of information

The requester has forwarded a copy of a letter which purports to be on MoD headed paper discussing The Rendlesham Incident. For a number of reasons, it is clear that the document is a fake. It therefore follows that parts 2, 3, 5 and 6 of his request cannot be answered

Part 4 can be answered but only at a cost in excess of £600

Costings – 1file takes 1 hr to read
100 files take 100 hours
100 hours at £25 = £2500

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05.... Section 40

Date: 1st July 2008

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 01 July 2008 12:42
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-06-2008-083218-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 June 2008 requesting a copy from our files of a document in your possession concerning what is known as the Rendlesham Incident. Additionally, you asked for material that accompanied this document, a voice recording, (allegedy of aliens talking), other documents relating to the department that wrote the letter and any documents written by the author of the document that refer to the incident including those written to other departments.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) holds a file with documentation surrounding an alleged incident at RAF Bentwaters, which has become known as the Rendlesham Incident. The document you provided is not contained on that file. I assume since you already have copy of the document, you are seeking to confirm that it is genuine and I think it only fair to state that I believe it to be a rather poor "fake". It rather follows that we do not hold the tape of the aliens talking either. We cannot identify who wrote the letter as the name has been blanked out and therefore cannot identify any other documentation the individual allegedly wrote.

The Rendlesham Incident has aroused consistent interest from members of the public interested in UFO matters. Most of this information is in the form of letters asking for information which are stored on paper correspondence files (amongst others) in the date order they are received and not on the single file the MoD has on the subject. Answering your request fully would involve checking some 100 files, the cost of which would exceed the £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the MoD is not obliged to comply with your request.

However, if you would like a copy of the MoD file on this matter please let me know. As the file is quite lengthy, we would prefer to provide it on a CD rather than print out a hard copy, although you are entitled to a hard copy if you wish.

You may be interested to know that UFO files for 1967 to 1987, and any files prior to 1967 which have survived, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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[redacted]und on the Commissioner's website,
http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.

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

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If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

Section 40 [redacted]

27-06-2008-083218-001

25 Jun 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 26 June 2008 19:13
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: The UFO incident at Rendlesham Forest in 1980.
Attachments: bentwaterufomemo.jpg; bentwatersufomemo.doc

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this letter to you in reference to the attached documents. The first document is a copy of the original MoD document and the second is a hand written copy of the letter for you convenience.

(1) I am looking for a copy from your files of the document that i have attached to this email.
(2) I am also looking for the material that accompanies this document which are referred to in the fore mentioned documents as 'flags'.
(3) I am also looking to obtain the voice recording that this document talks about and i am also after
(4) any other documents which are connected to this department referring to the Bentwaters Incident.

(5) I am after any more documents written by the author of the enclosed document that refers to the Bentwaters UFO Incident or
(6) any other documents that was written to the author by outside parties (such as other Department or groups or think-tanks or anything that is similar) that refers to the Bentwaters UFO Incident in December 29/30 1980.

I am sorry that i have asked so much, but i hope that you will be able to help in some way. If you can not help me with any of the questions could you please direct to a person/department who would be able to help.

Kindest Regards.

Section 40 [redacted]
Enc.

Not happy with your email address?
Get the one you really want - millions of new email addresses available now at Yahoo!

Ref: Bentwaters Incident, 1980
Ministry of Defence
Main Building Whitehall London SWLA
Telephone (Direct Dialling) 01-218-XXXX
(Switchboard) 01-218-9000

Dear XXX,

As you know, OSI has completed a report on the landing of a craft of unknown origin crewed by several entities near RAF Bentwaters on the night of the December 29/30 1980.

Interestingly, OSI reports that the entities were approximately 1 ½ meters tall, wearing what appeared to be nylon coated pressure suits, but no helmets. Conditions on the night were misty, giving the appearance that the entities were hovering above ground level.

Tape recordings were made on which the entities are heard to speak in an electronically synthesised version of English, with a strong American accent. Similar transmissions intercepted irregularly by ISA (?) since 1973 (see attachment – Flag 1).

According to OSI, entities had claw-like hands and with three fingers and an opposable thumb.

Despite original reports (Flags 3 – 0), OSI said the craft was not damaged but landed deliberately as part of a series of visits to SAC bases in USA and Europe. Reports that craft was repaired by US serviceman or was taken on to the base are not confirmed by OSI.

Landing is not considered a defence issue in view of the overt peaceful nature of the contact, but investigations by XXX are to be continued on XXX authority. Precautionary plans for counter-information at a local level involving XXX and a XXX XXX XXX is strongly recommended.

Sincerely

XXX

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Ref: Rendlesham Incident 1980

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) 01-21[redacted]

(Switchboard) 01-21[redacted]

[redacted]

Dear [redacted],

As you know, CSI has completed a report on the landing of a craft of unknown origin crewed by several entities near RAF Bentwaters on the night of December 29/30 1980.

Interestingly, CSI reports that the entities were approximately 1½ metres tall, were what appeared to be nylon-coated pressure suits, but no helmets. Conditions on the night were misty, giving the appearance that the entities were hovering above ground level.

Tape recordings were made on which the entities are heard to speak in an electronically synthesised version of English, with a strong American accent. Similar transmissions intercepted irregularly by NSA since 1975. (See attached - Flag A)

According to CSI, entities had claw-like hands with three digits and an opposable thumb.

Despite original reports (Flags B - G), CSI said the craft was not damaged but landed deliberately as part of a series of visits to SAC bases in USA and Europe. Reports that craft was repaired by US servicemen or was taken on to the base are not confirmed by CSI.

Landing is not considered a defence issue in view of the overt peaceful nature of the contact, but investigations by DSI are to be continued on [redacted] authority. Precautionary plan for counter-information at a local level involving [redacted] and a [redacted] is strongly recommended.

Sincerely

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

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

Section 40
Montplier
Bristol
Section 40

Our Reference
27-06-2008-083218-001

Date

23 July 2008

Dear Section 40

Further to your e-mail of 7 July 2008, please find enclosed a disk containing a copy of the MoD file on the Rendlesham Incident.

Some personal information such as names, addresses and telephone numbers has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The file is a compilation file comprised of documents that were removed from their original file and placed on this file. This would account for the non sequential enclosure numbering. Although the file cover states the file was opened on 25 October 1982, it is clear that this was not the case. Sec(AS) was not in being at this time, only being formed in early 1985 and therefore no file with a reference number commencing with D/Sec(AS) could have been in existence in 1982. No record of when the file was created can be found.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 07 July 2008 12:00
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-06-2008-083218-001

Dear Section 40

Thankyou for your swift and prompt reply. I would really appriaciate if you can send me the file on the Bentwaters incident on CD-ROM i would be very grateful. I will be not carrying out any more FOIA requests about this document or subject until i can get some more back ground material on this document. I have been in communication with other UFOolgists and they too seem to think it is a fake too.

my home address is :

Section 40 [redacted]

Montpilier

Bristol

Section 40 [redacted]

Kindest Regards.

--- On **Tue, 1/7/08,** Section 40 [redacted] wrote:

> From: Section 40 [redacted]
> Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-06-2008-083218-001
> To: Section 40 [redacted]
> Date: Tuesday, 1 July, 2008, 12:42 PM
>
> Dear Section 40
>
> Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 June 2008 requesting a copy from our files of a document in your possession concerning what is known as the Rendlesham Incident. Additionally, you asked for material that accompanied this document, a voice recording, (allegedy of aliens talking), other documents relating to the

[redacted]department that wrote the letter and any documents written by the author of the document that refer to the incident including those written to other departments.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) holds a file with documentation surrounding an alleged incident at RAF Bentwaters, which has become known as the Rendlesham Incident. The document you provided is not contained on that file. I assume since you already have copy of the document, you are seeking to confirm that it is genuine and I think it only fair to state that I believe it to be a rather poor "fake". It rather follows that we do not hold the tape of the aliens talking either. We cannot identify who wrote the letter as the name has been blanked out and therefore cannot identify any other documentation the individual allegedly wrote.

The Rendlesham Incident has aroused consistent interest from members of the public interested in UFO matters. Most of this information is in the form of letters asking for information which are stored on paper correspondence files (amongst others) in the date order they are received and not on the single file the MoD has on the subject. Answering your request fully would involve checking some 100 files, the cost of which would exceed the £600 limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and, as provided by Section 12 of the Act, the MoD is not obliged to comply with your request.

However, if you would like a copy of the MoD file on this matter please let me know. As the file is quite lengthy, we would prefer to provide it on a CD rather than print out a hard copy, although you are entitled to a hard copy if you wish.

You may be interested to know that UFO files for 1967 to 1987, and any files prior to 1967 which have survived, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London , is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

ot happy with your email address?
Get the one you really want - millions of new email addresses available now at Yahoo!

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 27 June 2008 14:09
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised:FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 26-06-2008-153535-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted],

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 21 June 2008 asking for a copy of the police report into an alleged UFO sighting that took place at 12.40am on Sunday 8th June 2008. Additionally, you asked for any information from other sources concerning this alleged incident, whether the alleged UFO was recorded on radar and what the MoD's position on the incident is.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has not received a report from the police on this incident. I would suggest that you contact South Wales Police at Bridgend for a copy. We hold no information on the incident from other witnesses, although we have had a number of Freedom of Information requests from members of the public such as yourself and are aware that an incident has been reported in the media.

Other than confirming whether or not we have actually received a report, the MoD has not investigated this matter, but radar sites have not reported any unusual activity. The MoD does not record Air Traffic Control radar itself but might I suggest that you contact the Civil Aviation Authority at www.caa.co.uk, as they may have records for the date in question.

The MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives (and in this case it has not received any report) solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military 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.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

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

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

UFO DATA
www.ufodata.co.uk

PO Box 280
Leeds LS26 1AN
Tel: Section 40

26-06-2008-153535-007
EXP 21 JUL 08

PLEASE REPLY TO:
Section 40 **Pontefract, West Yorkshire,** Section 40

Tele: Section 40

Email: Section 40

DG INFO HUB
23 JUN 2008
FLOOR 6 ZONE F

Date: 21st June 2008.

Subject: Freedom of Information Request.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to request a copy of the report prepared by the crew of the Police helicopter who are part of the South & East Wales Air Support Unit concerning the alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object they observed at 12.40 a.m. on Sunday June 8th.

I would like to request a copy of any and all other information from any other sources concerning this alleged incident including civilian, military or police witnesses. It goes without saying that I would like to ask if the unidentified object in question was recorded on radar, either civil or military and what is the official position of your department concerning this incident.

Any and all information you have on this incident would be greatly appreciated and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 26 June 2008 14:37
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Section 40

I have checked with AIR and we have received no reports of the sighting by the AIR DO, and I would expect any such reports made at local stns to be passed on there. Also none of my radar sites have received reports or indeed reported any unusual activity.

Section 40

Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

Section 40

CTandUKOps-SO1 Air & Ops Dev (DII)
Section 40

From: FYL-Stn Cdr
Sent: 23 June 2008 17:12
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Section 40

Nil return from us too.

Section 40

Section 40

Wg Cdr
Stn Cdr, RAF Fylingdales
Section 40

http://www.raf.mod.uk/raffylingdales/
The Officer Commanding
Royal Air Force Fylingdales
Pickering
North Yorkshire
YO18 7NT

From: Section 40
Sent: 23 June 2008 10:54
To: BOU-AFC-COS OPS; SCA-STN CDR; FYL-Stn Cdr; Section 40 Sqn Ldr
Subject: FW: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Gents

Have you had any reports about the UFO sighting below over Cardiff? I assume if you had it would have worked its way to me
Section 40 can you check with AIRDO

Many thanks

Section 40
Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
Floor 4 Zone I

Section 40
CTandUKOps-SO1 Air & Ops Dev (DII)
Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 14:43
To: Section 40
Subject: UFO SIGHTING 7-8 JUNE

Section 40

I am assuming the answer is no, but have you received a report of a police helicopter sighting a UFO at around 00.40 on the morning of 8 June 2008 ?

It has been on the news and has even made page 3 of the super soar away Sun, but I have been asked specifically if CT&UK Ops have received a report on it by one of our regular correspondents and will have to answer it as an FOI request.

Section 40
DAS-FOI
Section 40

47

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 28-05-2008-154719-001 Expiry: 25 Jun 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Case for release of information

DAS & DIS files for 1978-1987 are available for public viewing at The National Archives and are therefore withheld under exemption s.21(Information reasonably Accessible to The Applicant By Other Means).

Details of UFO sightings for 2007 are already on the MoD website whilst those for 2008 will be placed there in January 2009 so are withheld under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication).

It is not possible to identify every document within the MoD for the period 2007-08 with the words UFO or Flying Triangle. However, the release of the 15 relevant DAS files would probably take months of work and therefore will exceed the £600. Files covering 2007 are also due for transfer to the National Archives and would be withheld under s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication)

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemptions

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 24/6/08

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

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

Section 40
Spanaway
WA 98387
USA

Our Reference
28-05-2008-154719-001

Date
24 June 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 21 May 2008 asking for MoD UFO files for 1978-1987 and details of any UFO or Flying Triangle sightings for the period 2007-2008. Additionally, you asked for all references to the words UFO, and Flying Triangles for the period 2007-2008.

Directorate of Air Staff and Defence Intelligence Staff files on UFOs for the period 1978-1987 are now available for public viewing on The National Archives website www.nationalarchives.gov.uk and, under exemption s.21 (Information Reasonably Accessible to The Applicant by Other Means), the MoD is not obliged to comply with your request.

Details of sightings over the UK for 2007 are available on the Ministry of Defence website at www.mod.uk by searching under "UFO Reports". Details of sightings for 2008 will be placed on the website in January 2009 and therefore are withheld under exemption s.22 (Information intended for Future Publication).

The cost of releasing all documents containing the words UFO and Flying Triangles for 2007-2008 is likely to 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 the request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8****. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

28-05-2008-154719-001
EXP 25 JUN 08

Section 40
MUFON Mutual UFO Network
Spanaway, WA 98387

FOIA Unit MOD
FOIA Agency Address

May 21 2008

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: UK Secret UFO Files 1978-1987

insert details of the desired records, or describe in detail the event(s) for which you seek information. 1978 to 1987 Ufo files, and any, Flying Triangle sightings 2007 to 2008 including all documentation, including captions, that includes reference to: ufos, Flying Triangles

insert possible alternative names and spellings, abbreviations, acronyms, etc.

I also request all "see references" to these names. UFO's Flying Triangles 2007-2008

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 20 working days, as provided for in the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely, etc Section 40

DAS
28 MAY 2008
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

46

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 30-05-2008-093801-001 Expiry: 26 Jun 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Information previously redacted in the background note to PQ0048 and PQ0047.

Can MoD determine if there was any correspondence between Sec(AS) and DRPS on the subject of Rendlesham for the period 1991-94.

Case for release of information

DAS & DIS files are due for release to the National Archive so are withheld under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication).

Exemption s.40 (Personal Information) was applied to the release of the relevant background note as it referred to outside activities of a member of staff. There is n o reason to reverse this decision.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to the above exemptions

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40

Date: 23/6/08

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 June 2008 16:07

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 30-05-2008-093801-001

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 May 2008 asking why information in paragraph 6 of the background briefing note to PQ0047 and PQ0048 had been redacted and for the background note to be released to you without that redaction. Additionally, you asked whether there was any correspondence between the MoD and the Defence Radiological Protection Service (DRPS) regarding the Rendlesham Incident during the period 1991-94. I assume by MoD, that you mean Sec(AS), as the DRPS was itself an integral part of the MoD. If this is incorrect, please let me know.

Firstly, the information redacted from paragraph 6 of the background note was withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) as it related to an official's private activities outside their duties at the MoD. This remains the case and therefore I can see no grounds for releasing the information. I should point out for future reference that I believe the relevant PQ numbers were actually 0861i and 0862i.

The DAS and DIS UFO files for this period are due for transfer to The National Archives and therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MoD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request. However, I have checked with the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, who now hold the relevant DRPS files, but they can find no correspondence between them and Sec(AS) during the period 1991-94 on the subject of Rendlesham. They were approached by a member of Sec(AS), but this was by telephone only, although they believe that a note of the conversation was made by Sec (AS).

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall

23/06/2008

London
SW1A 2HB

23/06/2008

Section 40

JD-05-2008-093831-001
Exp 26 Jun 08

From: Section 40
Sent: 29 May 2008 16:11
To: Section 40
Subject: Lord Hill Norton PQs FOIA - Background Note Follow Up & Enquiry
Attachments: HillNortonPQs0047.JPG; HillNortonPQs0048.JPG; OSCMNickPope.JPG

Hi Section 40

On 10 August 2007, you sent me a substantive response to an FOIA enquiry that I submitted on various Parliamentary Questions by Lord Hill Norton on UFOs? Please treat this as a separate follow up to that enquiry and kindly note various attachments, scanned jpeg images for your reference.

Attached there are two pages from a background note that you sent to me via post and there is a scan of a page from 'Open Skies Closed Minds' a book by Nick Pope former MoD UFO desk officer.

In the attached scan HillNortonPQs0048, one of the papers you sent there are redacted sections at paragraph 6. If you examine the first redaction, it is plain to see that this information is already in the public domain and refers to Nick Pope, as evidenced in attached scan OSMCNickPope and marked with red underline and arrow, showing it was Nick Pope who made the enquiry to the Defence Radiological Protection Service.

Here's my questions and request relevant to these papers.

In paragraph 6 of HillNortonPQs0048 (attached) there is another redaction concerning explanations offered by the Defence Radiological Protection Service.

1. a) Why was this information redacted, what exemption was applied? b) May I ask for the re-release of this background note paper without the latter redactions and that offer alternate explanations for the higher than normal radiation levels involved in the Rendlesham Forest alleged UFO of December 1980. The grounds upon which I make this request are primarily because this information concerns an event which happened nearly 30 years ago, at an American USAF air force base that has long since closed down. I cannot see what exemption currently within the use of the FOIA should prevent the release of this information, if put to a public interest test, there's a strong chance it would be released, unless you can inform of some other reason why it should not?

2. Could you please determine if there's any correspondence between the MoD and Defence Radiological Protection Service concerning radiation readings connected with the Rendlesham Forest UFO of December 1980 but from the period 1991-1994 (Nick Pope's tenure)

Section 40 please find attached another scan of the background note paper which preceded the one in question, it might help to identify and relocate these papers. (HillNortonPQs0047).

Looking forward to your reply, either by email at Section 40 or by post at Section 40 Section 40 Hessle. East Yorkshire. Section 40

Thanks, yours sincerely

Section 40

frenzy.' Someone on the recording says, 'All the barnyard animals have gotten quiet now.' Other witnesses remembered the animal agitation. Was this caused by the low-frequency hum of an alien craft, or, more sinister still, does it have some connection with animal mutilations?

Despite some high-level pressure brought to bear by Lord Hill-Norton, who, it will be remembered, was a chief of the defence staff and chairman of the NATO Military Committee; and from Sir Patrick Wall MP and Ralph Noyes, who was a former head of DS8 himself, nothing concrete was done. When Halt's report became public in 1983, the media had a field day. 'UFO LANDS IN SUFFOLK' trumpeted the *News of the World* on its front page on 2 October. 'And that's official.'

There has been a steady stream of letters from the public over the years, but inevitably, fact and fiction intertwined until Rendlesham Forest became a myth. Rendlesham Forest is the British Roswell – we know that something happened, but we don't know what. I believe the Ministry of Defence squandered a major opportunity by not investigating the incident in detail at the time. The trail has now gone cold: the airbase has gone, the personnel have gone; even a great swathe of the forest has been cut down – on account, some say, of the massive radiation to the trees. Brenda Butler was unable to discover who had felled the trees or what had happened to them.

One aspect of Rendlesham has been consistently ignored by ufologists and yet, to me, it is the most tangible proof that something extraordinary happened there, and that is the radiation readings. I contacted the Defence Radiological Protection Service, attached to Haslar, the Institute of Naval Medicine in Gosport, Hampshire. Contrary to the claim made in *Strange But True?*, the readings were in fact ten times higher than normal,

and the military Geiger counters used were probably designed to measure much higher levels of radiation, so the scale at the lower end might have been less sensitive, making accurate readings difficult. It is also possible that the night hours were not the best time to take readings, although Halt's careful figures – 0.05 and 0.07 rather than the average of 0.06 – suggest that a great deal of precision was involved. Most ufologists have concentrated on the bizarre non-human shapes in the craft and their meeting with senior personnel. It is human nature to focus on the most dramatic and exciting aspects, and this is the stuff of contactee legend, the closest of close encounters. In comparison the actual physical proof of the radiation readings pales into relative insignificance. Yet this does not say much for the general standard of scientific research among ufologists, and does little to enhance their credibility.

So what did happen in Rendlesham Forest? There have been some quite extraordinary attempts to explain away the events described in Lt-Col Halt's report. One comes from science writer Ian Ridpath, whose theory is that the flashing, pulsating lights in the trees were actually the rotating beams from Orford Ness Lighthouse six miles away. A timing of the tape, he says, fits the rhythm of the lighthouse's circuit. He also claims that the six-mile distance would seem like only a few hundred yards at night, and as the men were moving about in the trees, the fixed light would give the impression of moving independently of them.

When Ridpath put forward this explanation in *Strange But True?*, Lt-Col Halt was, I felt, very restrained, in his rebuttal. 'A lighthouse doesn't move through a forest, doesn't explode, doesn't change shape, doesn't send down beams of light.' He might also have added that the Orford Ness Lighthouse had

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

DRAFTED BY : [redacted] TEL: [redacted]

AUTHORISED BY : [redacted] TEL: [redacted]
GRADE/RANK : Grade 7

AUTHORISED BY : [redacted] TEL: [redacted]
GRADE/RANK : SCS

DECLARATION: I have satisfied myself that the following answer and background note are in accordance with the Government's policy on answering PQs, Departmental instructions (DCI {To Be Confirmed}), and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 48/97).

[redacted]

BACKGROUND NOTE:

1. Lord Hill-Norton has a long-standing interest in "UFOs", was a member of the (now defunct) House of Lords All-Party "UFO" Study Group, and has written forewords for two books on the subject. He has previously written to Ministers supporting individual "ufologist" causes.

2. The MOD position on "UFO" sightings is that we examine any reports received solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the UK Air Defence Region might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential military threat, and to date no "unidentified flying object" sighting has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each reported incident.

3. The alleged incidents referred to in the 1981 memorandum occurred between 27-29 December 1980 when unusual lights were seen by USAF personnel, including the Deputy Base Commander, outside RAF Woodbridge. A report of the sighting written some two weeks after the events (copy attached) was forwarded to the MOD by the RAF Liaison Officer at RAF Bentwaters. The report was examined by the Department at the time and no evidence of any matter of defence significance was found. This is of course the Department's only interest in such sightings.

4. This incident is regularly quoted by the media and 'ufologists' as evidence of "UFOs" penetrating the UK Air Defence Region. However, all available evidence was examined at the time and nothing of defence concern was judged to have occurred in the location on the nights in question. No additional information has come to light over the last 16½ years which calls the original judgement into question.

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

5. It was then, and continues to be the case that witnesses are not routinely contacted following receipt of a "UFO" report. It would only have been necessary to contact Lt Col Halt (or any other witness) had there been any indication that the sighting was of defence relevance and further information was required.

6. The PQs may have been prompted by the publication of two books, one on "UFOs" and the other on "Alien Abductions" by a former member of Sec(AS), Mr Nicholas Pope. The incident is discussed in Mr Pope's first book. He states that the radiation readings taken by USAF personnel at the site were unusually high. There is, however, no evidence that any analysis of the radiation readings reported at the site was undertaken at the time. It can only be assumed now that in view of the assessment made at the time by the relevant air defence experts that the UK air defence region had not been compromised, no analysis of the reported readings was judged necessary. [redacted] approached the Defence Radiological Protection Service in 1994 for their views. Their advice was that the readings were higher than normal but that there could be a number of explanations for this. [redacted]

[redacted]

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 23 June 2008 14:01

To: Section 40

Cc: Section 40

Subject: RE: Release-authorised: FOI REQUEST RENDLESHAM FOREST 30-05-2008-093801-001

Attachments: scan.pdf

Section 40

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is the custodian of the files created by what was the Defence Radiological Protection Service (DRPS) and later became known as the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency Radiation Protection Services. Dstl have searched the files for the period mentioned and can confirm that there are no records of the type requested.

The above finding is not unexpected, as DRPS received many ah-hoc radiation-related enquiries. These enquiries covered a wide range of topics and the nature of any records maintained related to their apparent significance to DRPS's role, which was to provide radiation-related hrealth and safety advice to Ministry of Defence civilians and the UK Armed Forces. In this context, and given the nature of Mr Pope's enquiry and the lack of health risk associated with the doserates mentioned, it is not surprising that there are no records of what seems to have been a purely informal telepone conversation. Conversely, when it became apparent that this topic was attracting public interest, records of related correspondence were kept and an example from 1998 which summarises the DRPS position is attached for your information.

It is hoped this is helpful.

Section 40

Dstl search report:

1. Records/documents related to this type of incident are usually recorded in the pack for unusual occurrences (pack no. 175/015). Searching this pack between the period 1991 – 1994 yielded no documents related to the radiation monitoring incident at RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge.

2. A further search for files related to RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge over this period has been conducted, but no such files exist.

3. A DRPS health physicist, Section 40, was contacted by Nick Pope (who for the period 1991 – 1994 was Sec(AS) 2a with responsibility for conducting UFO investigations). There are no DRPS files relating to this meeting, the only evidence being a note (figure 1) written by Nick Pope on 15/04/1994[1], [2], which has been commented on in the public domain by ufologists[2]. Section 40 Section 40 confirms he considered the conversation as a privileged conversation the significance of which required no formal record.

3. Section 40 has previously commented on this conversation with Section 40 (ref: 150/17/11511/DRPS) on several occasions in 1996 and 1998 where he has reiterated his view on the conversation he had with Nick Pope in 1994.

[1] http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ufos
[2] Section 40 http://www Section 40 om/ufo/rendlesham4.htm

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 11:37
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorised: FOI REQUEST RENDLESHAM FOREST 30-05-2008-093801-001

Section 40

Have you had any success in finding any correspondence relating to Rendlesham Forest and radiation?

Section 40
DAS-FOI
Section 40

"The Information contained in this E-Mail and any subsequent correspondence"
"is private and is intended solely for the intended recipient(s)."
"For those other than the recipient any disclosure, copying, distribution, "
"or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on such information is"
"prohibited and may be unlawful."

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

NP 2

DERA

Radiation Protection Services
c/o Institute of Naval Medicine
Crescent Road
Alverstoke
Gosport
Hants PO12 2DL

☎ Section 40
Fax Section 40

Ref: 150/17/11511/DRPS

[redacted]

21 August 1998

Dear Mr [redacted]

References:

A. Letter dated 19 Aug 1998
B. 150/17/5817/DRPS dated 27 Sept 1996
C. 150/17/5767/DRPS dated 19 Sept 1996

Thank you for your letter of 19 August (ref A). You will recall from our previous correspondence (Refs B and C) that in my original discussions with Mr Pope I did indeed state that the readings were around 10 times normal background levels, provided that the instrument was appropriate for measuring background radiation (at the time of our discussions he could not state what the instrument was), calibrated and being used/interpreted correctly.

I share the NRPB view that the use of a high-range survey instrument to measure (accurately) environmental levels of radiation is somewhat questionable and this must throw some doubt on the validityof the data reported.

I hope this is of use to you.

Section 40 [redacted]

for DRPS Corporate RPA

Information

DERA Company Secretary (with references)

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

955699

NAMAS Testing No. 1305

NAMAS Calibration No. 0477

45

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 20 June 2008 10:52
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-06-2008-101125-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted],

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 20 June 2008 asking for copies of any records held by the MoD in relation to an alleged UFO sighting by a police helicopter crew on 7 June 2008.

Other than press enquiries, the MoD has no record of this alleged incident being reported to it.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent

sponse to your request.

Section 40

23-06-2008-131125-007

Ext 18 Jul

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 09:11
To: Section 40
Subject: Police helicopter/UFO report 7/6/08 Cardiff

Hello Section 40,

I imagine your phone is ringing off the hook this morning, given the wide media coverage of this incident. The following links refer just incase you haven't seen them yet:

http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?in_article_id=185134&in_page_id=34

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/2160814/Police-chase-UFO-over-Cardiff.html

http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/article1315843.ece

Please can you provide any records held by the MoD in relation to this report. If you intend to post the details on the MoD web site, please let me know as early as possible.

Regards,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 26 June 2008 09:34
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-06-2008-101125-003

Dear Section 40,

I can confirm that the MoD, (including CT&UK Ops and P&SS), has not received a report on this incident.

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

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40
Sent: 20 June 2008 12:17
To: Section 40
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-06-2008-101125-003

Hi Section 40

sorry to be a nuisance, but please can you check with CT&UK Ops and P&SS for this report which occurred at 00:40 (unclear if that is BST or GMT, but probably BST) on 8/6/08.

Regards,

Section 40

Section 40 wrote:
> Dear Section 40
>
>
>
> Thank you for your Freedom of Information
> request of 20 June 2008 asking for copies of any records held by the
> MoD in relation to an alleged UFO sighting by a police helicopter crew
> on 7 June 2008.
>
>
>
> Other than press enquiries, the MoD has no record of this alleged
> incident being reported to it.
>
>
>
> If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about
> any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me
> in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you
> are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal
> review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th
> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk).
> Please note that any request for an internal review must be made
> within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach
> informal resolution has come to an end.
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>
> If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to
> take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the

> provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the
> [redacted]formation Commissioner will not investigate the case until the
> internal review process has been completed. Further details of the
> role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the
> Commissioner's website,
>
> http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk
> <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/> .
>
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>
>
> Section 40 [redacted]
>
> DAS-FOI
>
> 05-H-Section 40
>
> MoD Main Building
>
> Whitehall
>
> London
>
> SW1A 2HB
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>
> The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London,
> is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of
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> authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of
> the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of
> FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen
> by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its
> privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will
> only see the published results: no individual responses will be
> visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your
> future dealings with the Ministry.
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>
> If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the
> following link to be taken directly to the survey:
> http://tinyurl.com/6prff8. Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at
> b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679
> 4974 to ask more about the study.
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>
> If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it
> out again in light of the recent response to your request.
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44

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

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

Section 40
Section 40
1052cc Amsterdamn
Nederland

Our Reference
13-06-2008-154329-003
Date
16 June 2008

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your letter of 1 June 2008 asking whether a film made by yourself in 1978 and a RAF report related to it were included in files recently released to The National Archives. Your letter has been passed to this branch as we have responsibility for UFO matters within the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and we are treating it as a Freedom of Information request.

The MoD UFO files covering 1978 have been passed to The National Archives and the contents are available for you to check yourself by contacting that organisation at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

The Constitution Unit, a research body at University College London, is carrying out an independent evaluative study of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in co-operation with a number of public authorities, including the Ministry of Defence. An important part of the evaluation process is gathering the experiences and opinions of FOI requesters like you. Any information you provide will only be seen by the Constitution Unit and will be handled in accordance with its privacy policy explained in the survey. The Ministry of Defence will only see the published results: no individual responses will be visible to us and your participation will have no effect on your future dealings with the Ministry.

If you would like to take part in this study, please visit the following link to be taken directly to the survey: ***http://tinyurl.com/6prff8.*** *Or, if you prefer, contact Ben Worthy at b.worthy@ucl.ac.uk or on 020 7679 4974 to ask more about the study.*

If you have filled this survey out before, we invite you to fill it out again in light of the recent response to your request.

17-06-2008-154729-007
Exp 10 JUL 08

Section 40
Section 40
1052cc Amsterdam
Nederland

DG INFO IHUB
12 JUN 2008
FLOOR 6 ZONE F

1/6/2008

Dear Sir/madam,

I am writing for the return of a cinefilm which was taken from me in the summer of 1978. After filming a ufo from my back garden. My mother along with many of the neighbours who also saw the ufo reported the incident to the local police at the Collier Row Police station in Romford, Essex.

Two men came to our home to investigate the sighting. I had filmed the ufo until my mother dragged me off the garden fence and ran into the house. Anyway, these two men came to see us and they said they were ufo investigaters. I took them to the site and there were several indications of a landing of some sort of craft. They took statements from me and my mother and soil samples from the area where I saw the craft land. They also took my cinefilm.

They explained that the R.A.F would analize the findings to see if the film had been tampered with, which of course, it wasn't, and to make an analysis of the substances that were found nearby. A few weeks later the men returned with good news that the film was genuine and according to the R.A.F I, and half the street, had seen a ufo. The two men said the R.A.F had the report.

As far as I know my mother asked for the film back without success. In 1998 I asked the M.O.D for the film back so I could show it to my son. I was given some excuse that the FOI did not apply in my case and that I could not have the report or the film until September 2008. I was also threatened to forget the whole thing, which I have not as I do not take being threatened lightly and I will not be bullied by anyone. Not even the M.O.D.

I heard on the BBC news that the government in it's infinite wisdom has released documents of ufo sightings. I would like to know if my film and report from the R.A.F. is included in these released documents? If not,why not?

At the time my name was Section 40 . My address was Section 40 , Section 40 Romford, Essex.

I await your reply.

Yours sincerley,
Section 40
Section 40

43

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 21-05-2008-111442-003 **Expiry**: 17 June 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Section 40 has requested UFO reports for the year 2007 and for the current year.

Case for withholding information

We have withheld the sighting reports for the year 2007 and the current year so far.

We informed Section 40 of the website in which she can access the reports for the year 2007.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

We used exemption s.22, (information intended for future publication) as the UFO reports for the current year will be placed on the website in January 2009.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Signature..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 6/6/08 .....

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40
Section 40
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire
Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
21-05-2008-111442-003
Date:
6 June 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for UFO sighting reports for the year 2007, and for the current year. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs. Sorry for the delay in replying, this Department has been very busy.

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

With regards to your request for recent UFO sighting reports for the year 2007, the Ministry of Defence Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at:
http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme,
by searching under 'UFO' reports.

You may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, or telephone 0208 876 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.

Finally, reports for the current year will be placed on the website in January 2009. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Section 40
Section 40

14/5/08.

PETERBOROUGH

DG INFO ADMIN Section 40

19 MAY 2008

6 F MB

Dear all

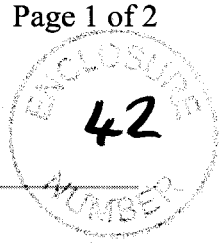
I would very much like you to send me a copy of the new "latest" 1. Freedom of Information act of Reports of Flying Saucers UFO's I wrote you previously of my 2 sightings & got a Reply, my First sighting was in Eye 5 miles from here in 1990 second Sighting was here in Back garden in November 2061. That one was Reported in the Sunday mirror "with other sightings" in August 2007 so its the newest ones I am interested in.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

21-05 2008 - 11142 - 003
EXP 17 JUN 08



Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 03 June 2008 11:36
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI - 15-05-2008-071609-001

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for information on a UFO report from Brixham in Devon dated 28 April 1967. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

First, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there 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 regards to the sighting report in Brixham, Devon on the 28 April 1967, you may wish to be aware that MOD files were routinely destroyed after five 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 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

The MOD website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk, by searching under 'UFOs'.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB(e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

EXP - 13 Jun 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 15 May 2008 02:14
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 15-05-2008-071609-001 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, May 15, 2008 at 02:13:40
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtoccupation: Self employed

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: Section 40

txttowncity: Torquay

txtstatecountry: Devon

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: I would like to request information of an UFO which was seen by the Brixham HM Coastguards in April 1967. The UFO travelled over Torquay, Devon and remained over Brixham, Devon for approx. 2 hours until it moved away.

Report: April 28, 1967; Brixham, Devon, UK
11:25 a.m. LT. A Coast Guard Station was alerted to a bright object in the sky and viewed it through 25x binoculars on a tripod. The object was stationary, revolving slowly. It was cone-shaped, pointed end up, and had a small triangular mark near the bottom, which had a crinkled appearance. A plane was seen to circle the object. More than an hour later, the object moved off slowly at a right angle to wind direction and disappeared into clouds. Possible radar detection.

Thank you

41

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 03 June 2008 11:36
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI - 20-05-2008-072028-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for information on the files we hold relating to UFOs from the twentieth century and the present twenty first century. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

With regards to your question of requesting to see all information the MOD holds relating to UFOs for the whole of the twentieth century and the present twenty first century, I should inform you that this Department holds details of UFO sightings reported to the MOD spanning a 25 year period. These records are not held electronically, but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are received. Before any of this information can 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 by 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.

You may wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed until 1967, when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU, telephone 0208 876 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 (MOD) will be transferring a further 150 files to The National Archives over the next three years in chronological order, with the oldest files being released first.

Finally, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains information on UFO sighting reports from the year 1997 up to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' Reports.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may 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 internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

EXP: 18 JUNE 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 May 2008 17:28
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 20-05-2008-072028-003 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Monday, May 19, 2008 at 17:27:52
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtoccupation: Retired

txtorganisation: Retired

txtaddress1: Section 40 [redacted]

txtaddress2: Section 40 [redacted]

txttowncity: Loughton

txtstatecountry: Essex

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I request to see all of the information that you are holding, relating to unidentified flying objects for the whole of the twentieth century & the present twentyfirst century?

Thank you very much

Section 40 [redacted]

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 20-05-2008-072028-003 Expiry: 18 June 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All info on UFOs for 20th and 21st century.

Case for release of information

Preparation of this information would exceed £600. Just reading the 150 files we have would cost £3750

1 file takes 1 hr to read
150 files takes 150 hrs to read
1 hrs work is £25
150 hrs work @£25 = £3750

Authorisation

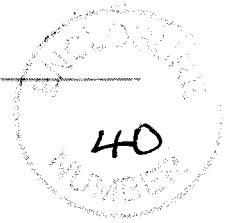
I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information subject to above exemptions.

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:.... Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05.... Section 40 .....

Date:..... 3/6/2008 .....

Section 40



From: Section 40
Sent: 28 May 2008 09:49
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 01-05-2008-144816-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 April 2008 asking for details of UFO sightings reported under the Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn schemes during 2006-07. Additionally, you asked for details of these schemes including inception dates, the Service they related to, their predecessors and the retention regime. Additionally, you asked for similar details for the Defence Confidential Occurrence Reporting Scheme.

There have been no reports submitted under any of the MoD's Confidential Flight Safety Reporting Systems (Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn or DCORS) for the years asked for 2006/07. This is not surprising as the schemes are essentially for personnel to report technical or engineering problems with aircraft or, on occasion, failure to follow existing safety procedures.

Regarding the schemes requested, there appears to be no information available concerning the inception dates of Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn. There are however, Condor and Murphy reports at the Directorate Aviation Regulations & Safety (DARS) dating back some 35 years, but no UFO related reports have been found. Records for Anymouse and Acorn were checked for some 20 years with similar results. As these schemes have been around as far back as anyone can remember, there are no previous schemes which anyone is aware of, or holds information or reports on. Details of the schemes are as follows:

a. Condor/Murphy. RAF Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System, Condor for Aircrew and Murphy for Groundcrew. Historically, reports were sent to the Head of the Inspectorate of Flight Safety (IFS) and following the introduction of the Defence Aviation Safety Centre (DASC) in 2000, these were sent to the Director DASC. DASC retained all previous Condors and Murphy reports and DARS continue to hold this data.

b. Anymouse. Royal Navy Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System. Reports were sent to the Officer-in-Charge of the Royal Navy Flight Safety Accident and Investigation Centre (RNFSAIC) at RNAS Yeovilton. Historical reports are retained at RNFSAIC.

c. Acorn. Army Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System. Reports were sent to the Directorate of Army Aviation at Middle Wallop. Again, historical reports are retained.

The Defence Confidential Occurrence Reporting System (DCORS) was introduced by DASC on 1 Jan 08, to replace Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn. The change was mainly brought about due to the increased nature of Joint Operations. RAF personnel send their reports to the Command Air Safety Officer (Operations) at the Aviation Safety Group, RAF High Wycombe. Navy personnel send them to the OIC RNFSAIC and the Army to SO1 Flight Safety & Standards at Middle Wallop. Contractors personnel send them to DARS. All reports sent to the single services must also be copied to D DARS. Both the single service and DARS will retain copies of all reports received.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail

InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

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

Section 40

From: DARS-Occ SO2 [c=GB;a= ;p=mod;o=raf;cn=DARS-OccSO2;ou1=northolt;ou2=station;]
Sent: 22 May 2008 15:18
To: DAS-FOI
Subject: FW: FoIA request - FLIGHT SAFETY REPORTING AND UFOs!

Section 40

I now have received all the information I needed to give you as full an answer as possible to the FOI Request.

1. There have been no reports submitted under any of the MoD's Confidential Flight Safety Reporting Systems (Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn or DCORS) for the years asked for 2006/07. Indeed we searched back 35 years and came up with nothing at all.

2. Regarding the scheme requested, there appears to be no information available concerning the inception dates of Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn. There is however, Condors and Murphys held at DARS as far back as 35 years, but as mentioned earlier no UFO related reports were found. As these schemes have been around as far back as anyone can remember there are no previous schemes of which anyone is aware or hold information or reports on. The individual scheme's an information requests is as follows:

a. Condor/Murphy. RAF Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System, Condor for Aircrew and Murphy for Groundcrew. Historically, reports were sent to the Head of the Inspectorate of Flight Safety (IFS) and following the introduction of the Defence Aviation Safety Centre (DASC) in 2000 these were sent to the Director DASC. DASC retained all previous Condors and Murphys and DARS continue to hold this data.

b. Anymouse. Royal Navy Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System. Reports were sent to the Officer-in-Charge of the Royal Navy Flight Safety Accident and Investigation Centre at RNAS Yeovilton. Historical reports are retained at RNFSAIC.

c. Acorn. Army Confidential Flight Safety Reporting System. Reports were sent to the Directorate of Army Aviation at Middle Wallop. Again, historical reports are retained.

3. The Defence Confidential Occurrence Reporting System (DCORS) was introduced by DASC on 1 Jan 08, to replace Condor/Murphy/Anymouse/Acorn. The change was mainly brought about due to the increased nature of Joint Operations. RAF personnel send their reports to the CASO (Ops) at the Aviation Safety Group, RAF High Wycombe. Navy personnel send them to the OIC RNFSAIC and the Army to SO1 FSS at Middle Wallop. Contractors personnel send them to D DARS. All reports sent to the single services must also be copied to D DARS. Both the single service and DARS will retain copies of all reports received.

I hope this is sufficient information for the reply, if not let me know.

Regards

Section 40

Sqn Ldr Section 40
DARS-SO2 Occurrences
RAF Northolt
Section 40
Section 40
DARS Defence Intranet Website

-----Original Message-----
From: DARS-Occ SO1
Sent: Friday 09 May 2008 09:51
To: DARS-Eng FW SO2
Subject: FW: FoIA request - FLIGHT SAFETY REPORTING AND UFOs!

Section 40

Section 40
Wg Cdr
SO1 Occurrences
Directorate of Aviation Regulation and Safety
>RAF Northolt
Mil: Section 40
Civ: Section 40
DARS Defence Intranet Website

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40
Sent: Monday 28 April 2008 12:02
To: BEP-DASC-Occ-SO1; DARS-Occ SO1
Subject: FW: FoIA request - FLIGHT SAFETY REPORTING AND UFOs!

Wg Cdr Section 40,

I have received an FOI request from a regular correspondent that you may be able to help with as flight safety reporting falls to your organisation to deal with.

As you can see from the request, the gentleman's real interest is in UFOs and whether any reports made under the named schemes could be interpreted as UFO reports.(For my sins I have MoD responsibility for UFO matters!)

I suspect he is interested in discovering whether we have any secret system for the reporting of UFOs that by passes normal reporting channels.

Could you call me to discuss?

Section 40
DAS-FOI
Section 40

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40
Sent: 26 April 2008 05:33
To: Section 40
Subject: FoIA request - UFO reports

Hello Section 40

I wish to submit the following request:

1. Copies (anonymised if necessary) of any reports submitted under the ANYMOUSE/ACORN/CONDOR/MURPHY reporting systems during 2006 and 2007 which could be interpreted as UFO reports.

2. Details of each scheme, including their inception date, which department holds records about them, which service(s) rhe scheme applied to, what similar schemes existed prior to their inception, and the retention regime for all schemes.

3. Details of the Defence Confidential Occurrence Reporting Scheme including inception date, which department holds records about it, and the retention regime.

Regards,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 26 April 2008 05:33
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: FoIA request - UFO reports

Hello Section 40,

I wish to submit the following request:

1. Copies (anonymised if necessary) of any reports submitted under the ANYMOUSE/ACORN/CONDOR/MURPHY reporting systems during 2006 and 2007 which could be interpreted as UFO reports.

2. Details of each scheme, including their inception date, which department holds records about them, which service(s) rhe scheme applied to, what similar schemes existed prior to their inception, and the retention regime for all schemes.

3. Details of the Defence Confidential Occurrence Reporting Scheme including inception date, which department holds records about it, and the retention regime.

Regards,

Section 40 [redacted]

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

39

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 01-05-2008-145035-004 Expiry: 28 May 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

1. In addition to the volume of requests in relation to UFOs, what other factors contributed to the eventual decision to release:

a) The DI55 UFO related files, and;
b) The DAS UFO related files.

to the National Archives? To what extent did these other factors influence that decision?

Example: The decision by the French Government to release the Geipan files had a negligible/slight/significant/major influence on the decision by DAS.

2. In respect of _each_ department;

a) When was the idea of a wholesale release first suggested?
b) What specifically triggered the idea?
c) On what dates did any meetings (including teleconferences) to discuss the idea take place, what were the titles of the meetings, which departments were represented at the meetings, and who were they chaired by?
d) On what dates were key stages reached in regard to the eventual decision and what were those stages?

3. Do you have a projected schedule for the staged release? If so, may I have a copy? If not, when do you expect to have one?

4. Have any FoIA requests been refused on the grounds of the scheduled release? If so, may I have copies of those requests and the responses provided?

5. Are the records relating the decision held in specific files by DI55 and DAS? If so, what are the titles and references of the files?

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold this information. Exemption s.40 has been applied to 2 previous FOI requests provided to the applicant

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to the above exemption

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40 [redacted] ....

Date:..... 22/5/08 .....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 22 May 2008 16:03
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 01-05-2008-145035-004
Attachments: FOI Request 20-02-2008-070338-002.pdf; FOI Request 09-04-2008-093901-001.pdf

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 April 2008. You asked a number of questions that I shall respond to in turn. DIS will respond separately.

In addition to volume of requests, what other factors contributed to the eventual decision to release the UFO files?

The overriding reason to release the files to the public through The National Archives was to reduce the level of work taken up in answering UFO related FOI requests. Additionally, it was considered that the Freedom of Information Act had made eventual, if piecemeal, full release inevitable. By establishing our own programme of release, the files could be placed in the public domain in an orderly fashion avoiding duplication of effort. There were also considered to be presentational advantages to the MoD in releasing this information voluntarily. Additionally, it was considered that the files themselves contained minimal amounts of information of direct defence relevance.

To what extent did these other factors influence the decision to release?

This question is difficult to answer satisfactorily as all the above factors needed to be considered in the decision making process. However, if you are looking for external influences other than volume of work, then I am afraid that there are none. I am aware that there has been a considerable degree of speculation that the French release of their own files played a part in our decision to release our own files. Other than noting it increased media and internet speculation on the subject of UFOs, this is simply not the case. There has also been speculation that the decision of the MoD to release its UFO files is part of an international agreement, allegedly to prepare the worlds population for the news that aliens are amongst us. I am afraid any such speculation is pure fantasy.

When was the idea of a wholesale release first suggested?

The notion of a wholesale release has been discussed within DAS for some years and is certainly not new. It was considered by my predecessor but not taken up primarily due to the heavy workload created by answering FOI requests. I had discussed the matter with her informally (it was not within my remit at the time) whilst she was still in post in 2006 and held informal discussions with my line managers and my opposite number in DIS, when I first covered the post on a temporary basis in late 2006 and early 2007.

What specifically triggered the idea?

The DIS decision to review their files for release caused DAS to revisit the question of release themselves.

Details of meetings to discuss release?

The MoD held, and continues to hold, a number of meetings to discuss the release. These have involved, at various times, staff from DAS, DIS, Corporate Memory, MoD Press Office and The

National Archives. Chairmanship of these meetings was based on the subject matter and who called the meetings. The majority have been quite informal, without title or minutes.

What dates were key stages reached in decision to release and what were those stages?

On 18 September 2007 a Ministerial Submission was sent to the Under Secretary of State for Defence asking him to agree the proposal to release the UFO files. This was agreed on 25 September 2007. I can think of no other key stages.

Does DAS have a projected schedule for release? If not, when does it expect to have one? Please provide a copy.

Any schedule for release is dependant upon files being accepted by The National Archives and until such time as this happens, it is not possible to provide a meaningful schedule. However, it is hoped that files covering the period 1979-92 will be released over 2008, those covering 1992-2000 in the 2009 and the remainder in 2010. It is planned that files will be released throughout the year rather than in a single batch. Naturally, if we are able to release files ahead of this schedule, we will do so.

Have any FOI requests been refused on the grounds of the scheduled release. Please provide copies of requests and answers.

Two FOI requests have been refused by DAS under exemption s.22. Both are attached for your information. Personal information has been withheld under exemption s.40.

Are the records relating to the decision to release held in a particular file? If yes what is the reference and title?

Details relating to the decision to release are not currently held on any particular file.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

EXP 28 MAY 08

01-05-2008-145035-024

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 26 April 2008 02:08
To: Section 40
Subject: FoIA request - Release of records

Hi Section 40

Following on from requests 25-06-2007-161221-003 and 08-10-2007-090830-001 I wish to submit the following request:

1. In addition to the volume of requests in relation to UFOs, what other factors contributed to the eventual decision to release:

a) The DI55 UFO related files, and;
b) The DAS UFO related files.

to the National Archives? To what extent did these other factors influence that decision?

Example: The decision by the French Government to release the Geipan files had a negligible/slight/significant/major influence on the decision by DAS.

2. In respect of _each_ department;

a) When was the idea of a wholesale release first suggested?
b) What specifically triggered the idea?
c) On what dates did any meetings (including teleconferences) to discuss the idea tak place, what were the titles of the meetings, which departments were represented at th meetings, and who were they chaired by?
d) On what dates were key stages reached in regard to the eventual decision and what were those stages?

3. Do you have a projected schedule for the staged release? If so, may I have a copy? If not, when do you expect to have one?

4. Have any FoIA requests been refused on the grounds of the scheduled release? If so may I have copies of those requests and the responses provided?

5. Are the records relating the decision held in specific files by DI55 and DAS? If so, what are the titles and references of the files?

Regards,

Section 40

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 April 2008 11:13
To: [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-04-2008-093901-001

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 9 April 2008 asking to see UFO reports for Northumberland and the Scottish Borders for 1995-96.

You may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be commencing a programme to release some 160 UFO and UFO related files to the National Archive. The files from the Directorate of Air Staff and the Defence Intelligence Staff will cover the period from the late 1970s to 2007. The files themselves will be released in accordance with the same principles that the MoD applies when it releases information for Freedom of Information requests such as yours. The files will be released in chronological order and the programme is likely to take some three years to complete, although I would expect the files covering the information you are interested in would be transferred within the next 12 months. A public announcement will be made when the first files are ready for viewing at the National Archive. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 09 April 2008 00:49
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 09-04-2008-093901-001[redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 00:48:30
---

txttitle: [redacted]

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: [redacted]

txtorganisation: [redacted]

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I WOULD LIKE TO SEE "UFO" REPORTS DURING 1995/6 FOR NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND AND SCOTTISH BORDERS (e.g.)EYEMOUTH FISHERMEN). YOU ONLY APPEAR TO HAVE MADE UFO FOI AVAILABLE FROM 1997 AND I KNOW A "REPORT" WAS MADE EARLIER FOR A SIGHTING IN NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND NEAR WOOLER PRIOR TO THE EYEMOUTH FISHERMEN SIGHTING.
THIS IS MY SECOND REQUEST BY EMAIL, THE FIRST GAINED NO RESPONSE OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2008 11:41
To: [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 29-02-2008-070338-002

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 28 February 2008 asking for the release of as many documents on UFOs and the alien phenomena as possible. Additionally, you asked for information on the above topic that is at Secret, Top Secret or above Top Secret level of classification. You also asked for the re-publication of any information on UFOs that might have been withdrawn from the MoD website. Further to that you asked for information on Peter Horsley and the Janus case.

You may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be commencing a programme to release some 160 UFO and UFO related files to the National Archive. The files from the Directorate of Air Staff and the Defence Intelligence Staff will cover the period from the late 1970s to 2007. The files themselves will be released in accordance with the same principles that the MoD applies when it releases information for Freedom of Information requests such as yours. The files will be released in chronological order and the programme is likely to take some three years to complete. A public announcement will be made when the first files are ready for viewing at the National Archive. Only a handful of files and documents are actually classified as Secret, but Ministers are content for them to be released, subject to Defence or National Security concerns (for example if they discuss radar capability or weapons capability). Whilst I have not looked at these documents recently, I expect that we will only need to withhold minimal amounts of information on these grounds. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

I am unaware of the MoD holding any files or documents on UFOs or aliens that are classified as Top Secret and there is no classification of Above Top Secret.

I am sorry to hear that you have had difficulty locating documents on UFOs on the MoD website. It is possible that there were difficulties with the website when you tried. Might I suggest that you search in both the Publication Scheme and the Disclosure Log under the subject of UFO. However, I can confirm that the MoD file on the so called Rendlesham Incident, together with information relating to the Corsham incident have been removed from the website.

Whilst investigating the best way to the release our UFO files, it became clear that placing letters from non MoD sources such as members of the public on our website, without the express agreement of the individuals who wrote those documents, would place the MoD in breach of copyright. Since the above documents contain a great many documents written by the public, and we simply do not have the resources to trace every individual who wrote to us, we recently (within the last week) withdrew the above document from publication. It may have been possible to leave the MoD documents on the website, but it was felt that the remaining documentation made little sense without the public correspondence that related to it. That having been said, not only will this information be released at a future date to the National Archive as part of the release programme I mentioned earlier, but we can still release the information to members of the public as part of a direct response to a Freedom of Information request as the responsibility for complying with copyright legislation effectively transfers to the individual requesting the information.

Finally, you have asked a copy of the Peter Horsley and Janus case file. I am unaware of any such

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]ile existing.

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the internal 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]
DAS-FOI
05-H-[redacted]Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

EXP 31 MAR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 28 February 2008 12:56
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 29-02-2008-070338-002 [redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, February 28, 2008 at 12:55:50
---

txttitle: [redacted]

txtfirstname: [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2:

txttowncity:

txtstatecountry: [redacted]

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: [redacted]

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: Could you please release all or as much as many documents as possible regarding the UFO and alien phenomena.

I do believe that you are holding documents with the aformentioned information that are classified as "top secret" and "above top secret" because as Nick Pope (Ministry of defence, UFO desk 1991-1994) says "over the past few years we have seen the release of documents [about UFO's] which at the time have been classified as top secret"

I have tried your search bar with minimal success recently, (a few months back there were many documents on UFO's that would be displayed, Over 150 i do believe) is this because you have withdrawn them?

If so, under the FOIA, could i please request that these are published again.

Also could i request the Peter Horsley and 'Janus'. case file.
This is the case in which Mr Horsley believed that his mind was "being read by an alien" in a house in Chelsea. Mr Horsley said himself that this was investigated and is classified "Above Top Secret", so saying that you have not investigated the aformentioned case is not adequate.

Summing it up, could i please request under the FOIA:

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

1. As much information as possible about UFO's and aliens 2. As much information as possible about UFO's and aliens that is classifeied as "Secret, Top Secret or Above Top Secret"
3. Information on the Peter Horsley and 'Janus' case

38

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 19-05-2008-093903-001 Expiry: 13 June 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copy of Cosford documents previously appearing on MoD website.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold this file. Personal information has been withheld under s.40 (Personal Information)

The redactions have been updated in accordance with existing MoD policy. This has been explained to the applicant.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to above exemptions.

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05..... Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 22/5/08

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

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

Section 40
Section 40
Marple
Section 40

Our Reference
19-05-2008-093903-001

Date
22 May 2008

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 14 May 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford Incident that had previously been available on the MoD website, which I enclose.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information). You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

You may also wish to know that the original file that these documents were drawn from is one of 160 due for transfer to The National Archives as part of the three year programme that has recently been featured in the media.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 21 May 2008 21:52
To: Section 40
Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-05-2008-093903-001 - COSFORD INCIDENT

Please address this to

Section 40
Section 40
Marple
Section 40
UK

A CD version would be best if you could post it to this address.

Thanks

Section 40

Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-05-2008-093903-001 - COSFORD INCIDENT
Date: Wed, 21 May 2008 13:53:39 +0100
From: Section 40
To: Section 40

Dear Madam,

Your e-mail of 14 May 2008 requested a copy of the information relating to the Cosford incident that until recently was available on the MoD website. The document is too large for me to forward by e-mail and I should therefore be grateful if you would let me know whether you require a paper copy or would accept a CD version.

Additionally, I will need your address details in order to forward it to you.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London

Miss your Messenger buddies when on-the-go? Get Messenger on your Mobile!

Section 40 [redacted]

19-05-2008-09393-001
EXT 13 JUN 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 14 May 2008 21:09
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: The UFO incident at Cosford in Mar 1993

I would like a copy Please.

Regards
Section 40

Miss your Messenger buddies when on-the-go? Get Messenger on your Mobile!

FILE NOTE:

Papers released in response to this request (19-05-2008-093903-001) are available to view on the website of The National Archives (TNA) under TNA catalogue reference DEFE 24/2086/1

37

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 19-05-2008-094234-002 Expiry: ~~22~~ May 08 16 JUN 08

Section 40

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copy of Cosford documents previously appearing on MoD website.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold this file. Personal information has been withheld under s.40 (Personal Information)

The redactions have been updated in accordance with existing. This has been explained to the applicant.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to above exemptions.

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name: Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40 .....

Date: 21/5/08

NOTE: TO SAVE PAPER, I HAVE NOT PRINTED OUT THE PAGES SENT.

Section 40

23/5/08

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

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

Section 40
Section 40
Tamworth
Staffordshire
Section 40

Our Reference
19-05-2008-094234-002

Date
21 May 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 16 May 2008 asking for a copy of documents on the Cosford Incident that had previously been available on the MoD website, which I enclose.

Some personal information such as names, addresses, telephone numbers etc has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information). You will notice that whilst most of the information withheld has been blacked out manually with a marker pen, some has clearly been blacked out electronically. These are amendments to bring the documents into line with current MoD practice and therefore the documents do not exactly match those that appeared on the website. That having been said, I do not believe that these amendments substantially alter the documents.

You may also wish to know that the original file that these documents were drawn from is one of 160 due for transfer to The National Archives as part of the three year programme that has recently been featured in the media.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 21 May 2008 14:37
To: Section 40
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-05-2008-094234-002 - COSFORD

Dear Section 40
Many thanks for your email. If you could send a paper copy of the document, my address is:

Section 40
Tamworth
Staffordshire
Section 40

Your help is much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely
Section 40

Section 40 wrote:

> Dear Section 40
>
>
>
> Your e-mail of 16 May 2008 requested a copy of the
> information relating to the Cosford incident that until recently was
> available on the MoD website. The document is too large for me to
> forward by e-mail and I should therefore be grateful if you would let
> me know whether you require a paper copy or would accept a CD version.
>
>
>
> Additionally, I will need your address details in order to forward it
> to you.
>
>
>
>
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
>
>
>
>
> Section 40
>
> DAS-FOI
>
> 05-H-Section 40
>
> MoD Main Building
>
> Whitehall
>
> London
>
>
>
>
>

Section 40 [redacted]

19-05-2008-094234-002

Exp- 16 JUN 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 16 May 2008 12:57
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Cosford Incident Documents

Dear Sir/Madam,

I should be most grateful if you could provide me with copies of the documents relating to the 1993 Cosford 'UFO' incident. The freedom of information section of your web page states that although the documents have been withdrawn for copyright reasons, it is still possible to obtain copies.
Many thanks.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

36

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 21 May 2008 11:07
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 15-05-2008-124015-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 14 May 2008 asking for copies of UFO sighting reports. I assume you are referring to the reports mentioned in the 8 files recently transferred to The National Archives. If this is incorrect, please let me know.

These files are now available for examination over the internet on The National Archives website, www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. MOD files were routinely destroyed after five 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 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. You may also wish to be aware that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) has already released a great deal of information about UFOs, including details of UFO sightings reported to the MOD for the period 1997-2007. These are available via our website, www.mod.uk, and can be located by searching under "*UFO reports*".

You may be interested to know that the MOD will be transferring some 160 UFO related files to The National Archives over the next 3 years. The files will be transferred in chronological order, with the oldest files being passed to The National Archives first.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

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

EXP 12 JUN 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 14 May 2008 18:31
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 15-05-2008-124015-001 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 18:31:18
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtoccupation: Student

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: Section 40

txttowncity: Livingston

txtstatecountry: West Lothian

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txttelephone: Section 40

txtinforequest: Hi! Under the FOI Act I want to request a copy of the reports about the UFO Sightings as the MOD has now annouced that they are going to make them available to all members of the public. Acceptance of this request will be highly appreciated. Cheers!

35

Section 40

19-05-2008-09455/-003
EXP - 16 JUN 08

From: Section 40

Sent: 16 May 2008 12:01

To: DAS-UFO-Office

Subject: u.f.o's

can you please let me have all previously witheld information on Extra Terrestrial/U.F.O.'s activity observation that is now available to us:
thank you

Section 40
Section 40
Solihull
Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 21 May 2008 09:20
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-05-2008-094551-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted],

Thank you for your e-mail of 16 May 2008 asking for all previously withheld information on Extra-Terrestrials and UFO activity now available to the public.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Files for 1967 to 1987, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at http//:www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) will be transferring a further 150 plus files to The National Archives over the next three years in chronological order, with the oldest files being released first.

The MOD website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: www.mod.uk by searching under "UFO".

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

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

34

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 20 May 2008 14:58

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-20058-134956-007

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 20 May 2008 asking whether Mr Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the UK Ministry of Defence.

Mr Pope was not a Minister at the Ministry of Defence.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 20 May 2008 13:51
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: foi email request PS 20-05-2008-134956-007 Section 40

Categories: FOI Information Request

Section 40

Can I interest you with this FOI request or do you feel it would be best answered by DGCP.

Regards

Section 40
FOI Helpdesk
Section 40

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 20 May 2008 09:44
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request PS 20-05-2008-134956-007 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 09:43:49
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: Hi,

I am an Australian Media Producer, wondering if anyone there could confirm if Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the Ministry of Defence, UK as he claims?

Thanks,
Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 21 May 2008 10:47
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Cc: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-20058-134956-007

Dear Section 40,

Thank you soo much for your prompt response! I thought it was a scam just wanted to make sure. He is getting alot of publicity online, on UTube and at so called 'National Press conferences' lately. Alot of people are convinced he is for real...very frustrating to watch.

Regards,
Section 40

Quoting "Section 40 [redacted]" :

> Dear Section 40,
>
> Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 20 May 2008 asking whether Mr Nick Pope (UFO author) was ever a Minister at the UK Ministry of Defence.
>
> Mr Pope was not a Minister at the Ministry of Defence.
>
> If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.
>
> If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may wish to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website,
>
> http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk.
>
> Section 40
>
> DAS-FOI
>
> 05-H-Section 40
>
> MoD Main Building
>
> Whitehall
>
> London

3W1A 2HB

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 21 May 2008 11:42
To: 'info@Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 20-05-2008-134956-007

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Whilst it is not MoD policy to provide personal details regarding employees (which, with more junior employees, would include career details) in fairness to Mr Pope, I feel I should point out that during the period 1991-1994 he was the desk officer with responsibility for UFO matters within the MoD. The post he held during this period (and which I now hold) was a civil service post at what was known then as *Executive Officer*. This is a junior management grade.

In the context of your FOI request, *Ministers* are all members of the UK parliament, whether in the upper or lower chambers, and therefore are at the very highest level of government.

I hope this clarifies matters.

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

33

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

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

Section 40

Farnham Common
Bucks
Section 40

Our Reference
20-05-2008-081551-001
Date

20 May 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 19 May 2008 asking for a copy of the MoD file on the Rendlesham Incident, which I enclose on computer disk.

Some personal information such as names, addresses and telephone numbers has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

20.05.2008-081551-001

EXP 18 JUN 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 19 May 2008 22:04
To: DAS-UFO-Office
Subject: Rendlesham Forest Incident

Hello,

Please may I have a copy of the Rendlesham Forest Incident. If it can be emailed please use this address but if the file is too large please mail it to:

Section 40 [redacted]

Farnham Common
Bucks
Section 40

Many thanks for your assistance

Section 40 [redacted]

Sent from Yahoo! Mail.
A Smarter Email http://uk.docs.yahoo.com/nowyoucan.html

32

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 24-04-2008-092858-004 Expiry: 22 May 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copy of MoD Rendlesham file.

Case for release of information

There is no reason to withhold this file. Personal information has been withheld under s.40 (Personal Information)

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information subject to above exemptions.

Grade/Rank: ..B2..... Name:... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05.... Section 40 [redacted] ....

Date:.....19/5/09.....

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

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

Section 40
Selby
North Yorkshire
Section 40

Our Reference
24-04-2008-092858-004

Date
19 May 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 April 2008 asking for a copy of the MoD file on the Rendlesham Incident, which, in accordance with your e-mail of 16 May 2008, I enclose on computer disk.

Some personal information such as names, addresses and telephone numbers has been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely, Section 40
Section 40

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 14 May 2008 11:22

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: RENDLESHAM FOREST 24-04-2008-092858-004

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 April 2008 asking for a copy of any and all files held on the Rendlesham UFO incident.

The MoD only has one file on the Rendlesham incident, D/Sec(AS)12/2/1, which appears to be a compilation file created some considerable time after the event. This is currently being prepared for release to The National Archives. However, I should be in a position to send you a copy of the file in the very near future. You have not specified whether you want a hard (paper) copy or an electronic (PDF) version which can be provided on CD, thus saving on paper. I am afraid that due to the size of the document, I am unable to e-mail it to you.

If you would let me know what format you would like the information in, I should be grateful.

Yours sincerely,

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

EXP 22 MAY 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 23 April 2008 12:20
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 24-04-2008-092858-004 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at 12:19:45
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: support worker

txtorganisation: b.i.r.t

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: selby

txtstatecountry: north yorkshire

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to see every file regarding the rendlesham forest ufo incident, at bentwaters airbase and surrounding area.{during the 80's in particular} My reason are that it is unlikely that this incident needs to be kept under raps anymore, as the base is no londer operational, and the mod officially does not recognise ufo's exist - yet american personel at the time elude to british forces searching for evidence- so i would be very grateful for all files regarding this incident- yours Section 40

31

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 19-05-2008-095012-004 Expiry: 16 June 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Number of requests regarding Rendlesham since the incident.

Sight of other incident files released on line.

Where can latest files to be released be viewed.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – 1file takes 1 hr to read
100 files take 60 hours
100 hours at £25 = £2500

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 19/5/08 .....

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 19 May 2008 15:03
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-05-2008-095012-004

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 16 May 2008 asking how many requests for information regarding the Rendlesham Incident there had been since the incident itself. It is being treated as a new Freedom of Information request. Your outstanding request for a copy of the MoD's file on Rendlesham will be answered very shortly. Additionally, you asked whether files on other cases would be released and if not, where they can be viewed on line.

The Rendlesham Incident has aroused consistent interest from member of the public interested in UFO matters. Most of this is in the form of letters asking for information which are stored on paper correspondence files (amongst others) in the date order they are received and not on the single file the MoD has on the topic. Accurately answering your question would involve manually checking some 100 plus files, the cost of which would exceed the £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. However, I can tell you that this branch, which is the lead branch for UFO matters within the MoD, has received some 26 requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act on the subject of Rendlesham since 2005.

As you may have seen last week in the press, the MoD is releasing some 160 UFO files over the next three years which will be available for viewing at The National Archives. This will include all the 100 plus files mentioned in my second paragraph, together with other case files. When they are released, you will be able to view them at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I was unable to be more helpful.

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H Section 40
MoD Main Building

19/05/2008

. hitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Section 40 [redacted]

19-05-2008-095012-004
Exp 16 Jun 08

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 16 May 2008 10:38
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: RE: RENDLESHAM FOREST 24-04-2008-092858-004

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thankyou for your prompt response, i have no preference for the hard paper copy or cd - It would be probably best on cd format, thanks - save trees {ironically}.
It was a bit of a surprise that the govt released files, at the very time i asked for the rendlesham incident case -just a strange coincidence.
I just wondered if you could tell me how many requests for the rendlesham incident there have been, since the incident - sorry i forgot to ask in the first place.
Is it possible to access other released files on line of other cases, if not where can i see the latest files released - thanks again Section 40 [redacted]

Subject: RENDLESHAM FOREST 24-04-2008-092858-004
Date: Wed, 14 May 2008 11:21:37 +0100
From: Section 40 [redacted]@mod.uk
To: Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 April 2008 asking for a copy of any and all files held on the Rendlesham UFO incident.

The MoD only has one file on the Rendlesham incident, D/Sec(AS)12/2/1, which appears to be a compilation file created some considerable time after the event. This is currently being prepared for release to The National Archives. However, I should be in a position to send you a copy of the file in the very near future. You have not specified whether you want a hard (paper) copy or an electronic (PDF) version which can be provided on CD, thus saving on paper. I am afraid that due to the size of the document, I am unable to e-mail it to you.

If you would let me know what format you would like the information in, I should be grateful.

Yours sincerely,

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

Get fish-slapping on Messenger! Play Now

30

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 13 May 2008 12:05

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-05-2008-101843-002

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 9 May 2008 which asked for details of all UFO sightings over Gloucestershire over the last 10 years. Specifically, you asked for details of date and location, the nature of the sighting, how many were reported by more than one person, which ones were investigated and what measures were taken. Additionally, you asked which three years since records began produced the most sightings over Gloucestershire and which three sites in Gloucestershire were most popular for UFO sightings.

Accurately answering your question would involve manually checking some 160 plus files, the cost of which would exceed the £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. However, if you could limit your request to one or two years we may be able to help you a little more.

That having been said, details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available via our website www.mod.uk by searching under "*UFO reports*" and this may provide you with much of the information you request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling o this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possibl and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting th Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mai InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 4(working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I was unable to be more helpful.

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 09 May 2008 10:28
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 09-05-2008-101843-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, May 9, 2008 at 10:28:10

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Reporter

txtorganisation: Gloucestershire Echo

txtaddress1: 1 Clarence Parade

txtaddress2: Cheltenham

txttowncity: Cheltenham

txtstatecountry: Gloucestershire

txtzipcodepostcode: gl50 3ny

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: How many UFO sitings have been reported in Gloucestershire during the last ten years. What was the date and location of each siting, and what was the nature of each one.

How many and which ones of these were reported by more than one person, and by how many.

How many of the total sightings in the last ten years resulted in your staff investigating and what measures were taken.

Which three years, since records began, saw the most sightings in Gloucestershire and how many were there and where.

Which three sites in Gloucestershire have had the most reports of UFOs since records began.

Please include copies of material which you hold in the form of paper and electronic records

including emails.

I would be grateful if you would supply this information in the form of email or post.

If I can help to clarify this request please contact me using the details below.

I look forward to hearing from you promptly, as required by the legislation, and in any case

within 20 working days.

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 (The Gloucestershire Echo)

Case Number: 09-05-2008-101843-002 Expiry: 9 June 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Individual details of UFO sightings over Gloucestershire over last 10 years, including location, who reported them, whether they were investigated. Also most popular 3 years for sightings over Gloucestershire since records began and 3 most popular locations.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – 1file takes 1 hr to read
160 files take 60 hours
160 hours at £25 = £4000

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:... Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40 ...

Date:..... 13/8/08 .....

29

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40
Maidstone
Kent
Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
02-05-2008-121421-002
Date:
12 May 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your request asking for a copy of the report entitled 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defence Region' otherwise known as the Condign Report. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

With regards to the Condign Report that you request a copy of, the MOD has scanned this large document and placed it on the MOD website at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme/UnidentifiedAerialPhenomenauapInTheUkAirDefenceRegion.htm in order to make it available to as many individuals as possible. The MOD makes no charge to view, download or print this information.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 02 May 2008 04:43
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 02-05-2008-121421-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, May 2, 2008 at 04:43:15

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Student

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Maidstone

txtstatecountry: Kent

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I don't mean to cause any troubles and I apologise if this is at all a time waster but I'd like to request a copy of the "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena in the UK Air Defense Region" Internal Review. It's out of curiosity that I wish to discover as much information as possible about the increase of UAP/UFO activity and with increases of recent evidences of Extra Terrestrial lifeforms, I feel the need to learn more about the situation to stay out of the shadow of ignorance. Thank you Very much.

Section 40 [redacted]

28

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 07 May 2008 11:47
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI-11-04-2008-073909-007

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for information regarding an incident on the 7 February 1974 at Ruabon Mountain in Llangollen C, in North Wales. You also asked for any UFO reports for that date and location.

The MOD files for this period have been transferred to The National Archives. They can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also has 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.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

ex 12 MAY 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 10 April 2008 23:24
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request PS 11-04-2008-073909-007 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 23:23:56
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: N/A

txtorganisation: N/A

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I am looking for information in to a insident that took
place on the 7th Febuary 1974 at Ruabon Mountain,in Llangollen Rural C !
North Wales.
I am looking for reports of UFOs on that day in this area. Yours
Section 40 [redacted]

27

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 07 May 2008 11:46
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI-14-04-2008-070935-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request enquiring if the Ministry of Defence is in possession of any non man made flying machine. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

You asked if the Ministry of Defence was in possession of any non man made flying machine and the answer is no. The MOD does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters to the question of the existence of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date, the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

EXP 13 MAY 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 13 April 2008 04:47
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 14-04-2008-070935-003 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, April 13, 2008 at 04:47:15

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: none

txtorganisation: none

txtaddress1: Section 40 [redacted]

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: St. Louis

txtstatecountry: Mo.

txtzipcodepostcode: 63104

txtcountry: USA

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Do you have in your possession any non man made flying machine?

26

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 06-05-2008-144514-003 Expiry: 4 June 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Individual details of UFO sightings over Devon and Somerset over last 10 years, including location, who reported them, whether they were investigated and whether there were any images or video of them.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – 1file takes 1 hr to read
60 files take 60 hours
60 hours at £25 = £1500

It may be possible to reduce time taken as we have dates for incidents, but this is still likely to take 30 minutes per file which will result in a cost of £750 which is still over the £600 limit.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ....BZ..... Name:..Section 40 [redacted].....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05...Section 40 [redacted].....

Date:.....7/8/08.....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 07 May 2008 11:01
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 06-05-2008-144514-003

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 6 May 2008 which asked for details of all UFO sightings over Somerset and Devon over the last 10 years. Specifically, you asked for details of location, who reported them and whether they were investigated and if there are any images/video of them.

Accurately answering your question would involve manually checking, as a minimum, some 60 plus files, the cost of which would exceed the £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.

However, details of UFO sightings reported to the MoD for the period 1997-2007 are available via our website www.mod.uk by searching under "*UFO reports*" and this may provide you with much o the in formation you request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling o this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possibl and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting th Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mai InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 4(working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I was unable to be more helpful.

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 06 May 2008 15:46
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 06-05-2008-144514-003 [redacted]

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 15:46:13

---

txttitle: [redacted]

txtfirstname [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: journalist

txtorganisation: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Weston-super-Mare

txtstatecountry: Somerset

txtzipcodepostcode: [redacted]

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to know about all UFO sightings in the past 10 years in Somerset and Devon.
How many have there been?
Can I have details of each one individually - location, what are they of, who reported them and were any investigated?
Are there any images/video of any of them?

Thanks

Section 40 [redacted]

25

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 06 May 2008 10:01
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 06-05-2008-070538-001

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 2 May 2008 asking whether there had been any UFOs or extra-terrestrial designed craft controlled by Homo-Sapians, over Grimsby on 2 December 1997 between 01:00 and 05:00.

The MoD has no reports of UFOs or extra terrestrial objects being sighted over Grimsby on that date. Additionally, we have no knowledge of the existence of any craft of alien design controlled by Homo-Sapians.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 02 May 2008 20:50
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request PS 06-05-2008-070538-001 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, May 2, 2008 at 20:50:10

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Dear MOD,
Were any Unidentified Flying Objects, or objects that could be identified as extra-terrestrial in origin, or objects that could be identified as extra-terrestrial in design but controlled by Homo Sapiens and of earthly origin, flying over the town of Grimsby on December 2nd 1997 between 01:00 and 05:00hrs?

Thankyou.

24

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40
Broadcast Journalist
Silk FM
Section 40
Macclesfield
Cheshire Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
27-03-2008-104329-011
Date:
22 April 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for the number of UFO sightings in Cheshire between January 2005 and March 2008. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs'.

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

With regards to your question of the number of sightings in Cheshire between January 2005 and March 2008, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information of Information website has a database which contains the details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 which can be accessed via the internet at:
http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme,
by searching under 'UFO' reports.

Finally, so far in 2008, there has been one UFO sighting from Chester in Cheshire on the 31 January.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent

internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 22 April 2008 11:42
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: Section 40 [redacted] FOI Letter
Attachments: Section 40 [redacted], FOI Letter.doc

EXP 24 APR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 27 March 2008 11:40
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 27-03-2008-104329-011 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 11:40:07
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Broadcast Journalist

txtorganisation: Silk FM

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Macclesfield

txtstatecountry: Cheshire

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: How many reported UFO sightings were there in Cheshire
between January 2005 and March 2008?

23

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40
Journalist
Trinity Mirror
Section 40
Hinckley
Leicestershire Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
31-03-2008-152837-007
Date:
22 April 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for the number of UFO sightings seen in Hinckley, Leicestershire and the surrounding areas in the past five years. This office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs'.

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

With regards to your question of sighting reports seen in Hinckley in Leicestershire and the surrounding areas for the last five years, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database which contains the details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007, which can be accessed via the internet at:
http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/PublicationScheme,
by searching under 'UFO' reports.

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

internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 22 April 2008 11:41
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised Section 40 [redacted] FOI Letter
Attachments: Section 40 [redacted] FOI Letter.doc

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 31 March 2008 13:53
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 31-03-2008-152837-007 Section 40

EXP 28 APR 08

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, March 31, 2008 at 13:52:37

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: Trinity Mirror

txtaddress1: Hinckley Times

txtaddress2: Brunel Road

txttowncity: Hinckley

txtstatecountry: Leics

txtzipcodepostcode: LE10 0AB

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to know how many UFO sightings there have been in the Hinckley (in Leicestershire) and the surrounding towns and villages in the past 5 years.

22

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 25-03-2008-121607-008 Expiry: 22 Apr 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All information on Cosford and Rendlesham Incidents

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act:

Costings 1 file takes 1 hour to read
100 files takes 100 hours
100 hours @ £25 = £2500

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Section 40 [redacted]

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

Date:..... 16/4/08 .....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 16 April 2008 15:05
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 25-03-2008-121607-008

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 23 March 2008 asking for copies of all information regarding the alleged UFO incidents at Cosford (1993) and Rendlesham (1980).

Answering your request would involve manually checking, as a minimum, some 100 DAS files, the cost of which would exceed the £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.

Whilst it is not possible to quantify without undertaking a major administrative exercise, my experience would suggest that the overwhelming majority of documents mentioning the Rendlesham and Cosford incidents are requests for information or correspondence from members of the public such as yourself, which may not provide you with the information you are looking for. However, the MoD has a file on each incident, both of which are currently being prepared for release to The National Archives as part of a programme to transfer 160 MOD files on UFO matters. The MoD had previously placed a considerable amount of information relating to Cosford and the Rendlesham file on its own website, but has had to remove this for copyright reasons. If you would like this information, please let me know whether you can accept a PDF copy on disk and I will forward it to you.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

16/04/2008

EXP 22 APRIL 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 23 March 2008 20:14
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 25-03-2008-121607-008 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, March 23, 2008 at 20:13:40
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Naval Architect

txtorganisation: NA

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Hundvaag

txtstatecountry: Rogaland

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: Norway

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I would like to have access to all information regarding the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Cosford Incident 1993, and Rendlesham Forest Incident 1980

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 09-04-2008-093901-001 Expiry: 8 May 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

UFO reports for 1995-96 covering Northumberland and the Scottish Borders

Case for release of information

This information is due for transfer to the National Archive which is likely to occur in the next 12 months.

Information should be withheld under exemption s.22 (Information Intended for Future Publication)

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name: Section 40 [redacted] .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40 [redacted]

Date: ..... 10/4/08 .....

[redacted] Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 10 April 2008 11:13
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 09-04-2008-093901-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 9 April 2008 asking to see UFO reports for Northumberland and the Scottish Borders for 1995-96.

You may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be commencing a programme to release some 160 UFO and UFO related files to the National Archive. The files from the Directorate of Air Staff and the Defence Intelligence Staff will cover the period from the late 1970s to 2007. The files themselves will be released in accordance with the same principles that the MoD applies when it releases information for Freedom of Information requests such as yours. The files will be released in chronological order and the programme is likely to take some three years to complete, although I would expect the files covering the information you are interested in would be transferred within the next 12 months. A public announcement will be made when the first files are ready for viewing at the National Archive. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 09 April 2008 00:49
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 09-04-2008-093901-001 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 00:48:30
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname Section 40

txtlastname:

txtoccupation: RETIRED

txtorganisation: NONE

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: I WOULD LIKE TO SEE "UFO" REPORTS DURING 1995/6 FOR NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND AND SCOTTISH BORDERS (e.g.)EYEMOUTH FISHERMEN). YOU ONLY APPEAR TO HAVE MADE UFO FOI AVAILABLE FROM 1997 AND I KNOW A "REPORT" WAS MADE EARLIER FOR A SIGHTING IN NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND NEAR WOOLER PRIOR TO THE EYEMOUTH FISHERMEN SIGHTING.
THIS IS MY SECOND REQUEST BY EMAIL, THE FIRST GAINED NO RESPONSE OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION.

20

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 08 April 2008 11:16
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 31-03-2008-095419-001

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 5 March 2008 asking whether the subject of UFOs is the most requested Freedom of Information topic. Your e-mail is being treated as a Freedom of Information request.

The Ministry of Defence does not hold statistics that readily answer this question, however, I can confirm that for the year 2007, requests on the subject of UFOs formed 5.22% of the total number of FOI requests received by the Ministry of Defence.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 07 April 2008 15:55
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Section 40 [redacted]

Apologies for the delay in getting back to you. What we can do for you is get UFO requests as a percentage of all requests:

	Total requests	UFO requests	UFOs % of total
2005	4604	115	2.50
2006	3300	100	3.03
2007	3026	158	5.22
Total	10930	373	3.41

I think figures for 2005+6 are wrong - too low!!
DAS-FOI

Overall UFO requests were only 3% of the total which is not exactly overwhelming interest, though the figures are higher in 2007.

Section 40 [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 01 April 2008 14:05
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

We don't need to analyse the content of the UFO requests themselves. What we need to know is whether UFOs is the most popular subject for FOI requests as compared for instance with Iraq or the Red Arrows or Prince Harry etc

Section 40 [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 01 April 2008 13:29
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Section 40 [redacted]

Analysing the content of different UFO requests would be very time consuming

and certainly more than 3 days of effort.

As Section 40 said below, we could quite easily analyse the numbers of UFO requests since Jan 2005 but this may not be what is required.

Section 40

-----Original Message-----
From: Section 40
Sent: 31 March 2008 11:29
To: Section 40
Subject: FW: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Section 40

Looking at Section 40 response, it looks like we do not hold the information the gentlemans request. Would I be correct in assuming that categorising requests in the manner necessary to answer this request is likely to take more than 3 days work and therefore would be over the usual £600 limit?

Section 40

DAS-FOI

Section 40

From: Section 40
Sent: 31 March 2008 10:55
To: Section 40
Cc: Section 40
Subject: RE: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Section 40

When we summarise requests received concerning UFO material, the request summary that we use is "UFOs" and this is how this particular type of request is

recorded in the off-line request list that we maintain. If you look at the Requests Received list that we publish on the FOI website at http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation/DisclosureLog/Requ you will see that the Request Summary for UFO material is "UFOs" but does not break out the type of UFO requests received.

We do not generally categorise subjects in the list and therefore it will be difficult to provide you with figures that compare the types of requests that are received. We could however, let you have a % of UFO requests received and logged under FOI with a request summary of "UFOs" in comparison to all the "other" requests that we have received on a yearly basis since 2005 but this may not give you the answer that the applicant is looking for i.e. is it true that because of the FIA this is the most requested subject?

Please let Section 40 know if you would like the information highlighted in red.

Thanks

Section 40
Info-Access Ops2
6th Floor, Zone E
Ministry of Defence

MOD Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Tel: Section 40
Fax:

Website: http://www.foi.mod.uk

From: Section 40
Sent: 31 March 2008 09:56

To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: FW: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Section 40 [redacted]

This is the letter we spoke about.

I have logged it as 31-03-2008-095419-001.

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2008 22:33
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: RE: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I appreciate your reply even through it does not answer any of my questions. I will take this in the only way i know how! that you are aware of everything i asked, and are unable to comment further, and obviously, i didn't expect to receive anything other than this.

I had heard about the Mod's release of this information commencing spring 08 and feel this is a step in the right direction, the interest on this matter is clearly overwhelming, as i am sure you are aware, is it true that because of the FIA this is the most requested subject?

I only hope this "open minded" approach is continued by your American constituents, and hopefully one day this is something which can be embraced on a global scale as opposed to a the defensive, patriarchal egotistically, threatening approach which has been demonstrated by the US government as so far.

[redacted]Many thanks for the reply

Section 40 [redacted]

Subject: UFOs AND EXTRA TERRESTRIALS
Date: Wed, 5 Mar 2008 10:30:30 +0000
From: Section 40 [redacted]
To: Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 3 March 2008 on the subject of the MoD position regarding UFO and extra terrestrial behaviour.

I am afraid I can add little to what you have already read.

The MoD is not charged with investigating the existence of extra terrestrial life and it is certainly not funded to do so. Nothing we have seen to date gives us any reason to believe that UFOs or extra terrestrials are a defence threat to the UK and its interests. Until such time as we are presented with clear evidence of the existence of extra terrestrial lifeforms, and to date we have received none, we remain open minded about their existence and by extension any defence threat they may pose.

The MoD is quite open on this matter and in fact, and you may be interested to know that we will shortly begin releasing some 160 UFO related files to the National Archive. The files will be released in chronological order over a period of three years commencing this year and will cover the late 1970s to 2007.

I am sorry I could not be of more assistance.

[redacted]Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

DAS-FOI

05-H-Section 40

MoD Main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

Everything in one place. All new Windows Live!
<http://www.windowslive.co.uk/get-live>

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AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 13-03-2008-092903-003 Expiry: 14 Apr 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All documents mentioning the Rendlesham Incident.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – 1 file takes 1 hour to read
100 files take 100 hours
100 hours @£25 = £2500

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40

Date: 26/3/08

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 26 March 2008 12:39

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 13-03-2008-092903-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 12 March 2008 asking for copies of all documents which mention or deal with, the UFO sightings near RAF Bentwaters in December 1980.

Answering your request would involve manually checking, as a minimum, some 100 DAS files, the cost of which would exceed the £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.

You are already aware that the Ministry of Defence has a file on the subject. Beyond that, whilst the matter is of no further interest to the MoD, it remains of considerable interest to members of the public interested in the subject of UFOs. Whilst it is not possible to quantify without undertaking a major administrative exercise, my experience would suggest that the overwhelming majority of documents mentioning the Rendlesham Incident are requests for information from members of the public such as yourself, which may not provide you with the answers you are looking for.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

17-07-2008-092903-003
EXP 14 APR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 12 March 2008 20:34
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 20:33:41
---

txttitle: [redacted] Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40 [redacted]

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: *I do not have an address 2 here in the U.S.* ???

txttowncity: Section 40 [redacted]

txtstatecountry: Georgia

txtzipcodepostcode: 30269

txtcountry: USA

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: The MOD does not think the UFO sighting at Bentwaters RAFB near the Rendlesham Forest in December of 1980 was of any defense significance? So the MOD does not investigate UFO sightings or try to explain the reality of UFOs to the public simply because you don't believe UFOs in general pose any potential threat to the UK's national security?

First of all I find it very hard to believe that a UFO near a base like Bentwaters in 1980 which housed nuclear weapons would not be considered at least a 'potential' threat to national security. Please explain to me how this can be so. Second, I believe that any invasion of air space by a UFO is a 'potential' threat to national security and should be investigated. If not, I believe the MOD is not doing it's job to protect.

For me personally I'm sick of all the hog wash both you and the U.S. government/military have to say about UFOs and have been saying for the past several decades. I know Jim Penniston. He was there that night and he touched the triangular UFO when it was on the forest floor. It was a real physical craft and you know it. Why act like you don't fully know what happened? Only the most ignorant of the population believes the MOD in regards to UFOs. It is a rather unfortunate fact. how can you say that no UFO has ever shown to poses technology beyond our current capabilities? The U.S. uses that same statement. It's complete hog wash. I know a man who saw a 300 yard wide UFO hovering silently 300 feet above him on Jan. 1, 2008 in Dublin Texas here in the

U.S. It took off in the blink of an eye without making a sound or creating any air disturbance. Now please tell me what you think of that level of technology.

Some UFOs are of 'ET' origin. You know this. I hope you make the correct decision and disclose this information soon before they make themselves known in a big way. It will be a lot easier to deal with if the public knows about their existence before that happens.

---

*My request if for copies all documents which contents mention and/or deal with the December 1980 UFO sightings near Bentwaters RAFB and Rendlesham Forest. I hope you send me the real deal. I know there's more to this event then what you've released thus far to the public. Please let me be the first one to get the truth. I promise I will take good care of the information and release it on good terms. I have been researching the UFO phenomena for several years. I mean well and I mean that for us all.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Thank you very much! :)

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Section 40

From: Section 40 Wg Cdr
Sent: 19 March 2008 09:29
To: Section 40
Cc: Section 40 gsi.gov.uk'
Subject: release-authorised: Response to Request
Attachments: FOI response Section 40 .pdf

Section 40

You asked: 'Please inform me of all information on the so called planet "Nibiru" or " Planet X" apparently orbiting our solar system'. Please see my attached response.

Section 40

Wg Cdr
DAS-Strategy Space
Section 40 @mod.uk

19th March 2008

Section 40 [redacted]

Our ref: 28-02-2008-073724-002

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Request for Information

Your correspondence dated 26th February 2008 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 / Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Your request has been assessed. This letter is to inform you that we do not believe that the information you have requested is held by the Ministry of Defence.

The information you have requested may be held by another Public Authority. We suggest you try contacting the British National Space Centre Communications Unit on 020 3300 8811 or email bnscinfo@bnsc.gsi.gov.uk. Alternatively, you may wish to write to them at The British National Space Centre, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6SW.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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.

Section 40 [redacted]

Wg Cdr
e-mail Section 40 [redacted]@mod.uk

From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 26 February 2008 20:45
To: webmaster@dgics.mod.uk
Subject: Research Enquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 20:44:29

---

txtname: Section 40

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtrequest: Please inform me of all information on the so called planet "Nibiru" or " Planet X" apparently orbiting our solar system.

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 29-02-2008-065802-001 Expiry: 1 Apr 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Were any military aircraft flying over Ormskirk around 19:00 on Sunday 24 February 2008.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – Minimum of 30 potential flying stations
1station takes 2 hours to check records
30 stations take 60 hours
60 hours at £25 = £1500

This figure excludes DAS time spent asking each station for the information

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05… Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 6/3/08

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 06 March 2008 11:11
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 29-02-2008-065802-001

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 29 February 2008 asking whether any military aircraft were flying over Ormskirk at 19:00 on Sunday 24 February 2008.

The MoD has no record of any military aircraft flying within the low flying system at that time. However, this only records flights at 2000ft or below. The MoD does not maintain central records of military flights within the UK above 2000ft and in order to answer your question we would need to contact every flying station in the UK to see where each individual aircraft was at that time. The costs would 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.

Whilst I cannot provide you with the information you require, I can say that there is only very limited military flying at weekends. It is therefore unlikely, but certainly not impossible, that the lights you saw were from military aircraft. Beyond that, I am afraid that the MoD is not resourced to provide an aerial identification service to the public.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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

06/03/2008

EXP 1 AIR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 29 February 2008 00:29
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 29-02-2008-065802-001 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, February 29, 2008 at 00:29:00

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname Section 40

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2: ormskirk

txttowncity: ormskirk

txtstatecountry: lancashire

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: on sunday 24th feb approx 19.00 i saw 5 bright lights in the sky moving together 3 of them vanished after 1 minute the other 2 continued for 1 more minute then vanished. i have never seen anything like this before they were not normal aircraft and i wondered if you could help me anymore with this? did you have aircraft in my area at this time that would match this unusual sighting?

16

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2008 15:56
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI Request - 26-02-2008-090719-002.

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking what your sighting could have been on New Year's Eve and if any flying objects are picked up on either airport or national security radars. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

It is possible that the cause of the lights may have been picked up by either civilian or military radar. However, I should explain that neither civil nor military radar attempt to identify every radar return they receive and that contrary to what many of the public may think, much of British airspace is uncontrolled and aircraft are entitled to fly without direction from air traffic control. If the radar returns were not giving particular cause for concern or were not interfering with controlled airspace, military and civil radar operators may not have attempted to identify them.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 26 February 2008 06:23
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 26-02-2008-090719-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 06:23:23

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Student

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Chipstead

txtstatecountry: Surrey

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Dear Sir/Madam,

I am sure you have already had some enquiries, as to the lights that appeared in the sky on Near Years Eve 2007 (The most recent new years eve). I do not mean the fireworks, but other lights in the sky. I was at a party in Forest Row, we were all standing outside talking at around 8.30pm when all of us (12) saw these small orange lights move in a line across the sky on the horizon. They were clear and moved in a line then disappeared one by one. I have done some research and found out that other people saw similar lights on the same night. It did startle me for a while and I am curious as to what it could have been? Surely any flying objects in the sky are picked up on either airport or national security radars? I would very much appreciate a reply either by email or by post.

Many Thanks

Section 40 [redacted]

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 29-02-2008-070338-002 Expiry: 31 Mar 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All or as many UFO documents as possible

All docs held at Secret, Top Secret or Above Top Secret

Any information withdrawn from MoD website should be re-published

Copy of Peter Horsley and Janus file

Case for release of information

This information should be withheld under exemption s.22 (Information intended for future publication). – The UFO files are due for release anyway.

There are no files at Top Secret. There is no Above Top Secret classification

There is no file held by MoD for Peter Horsley and Janus – It was a 1954 incident.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ....B2..... Name:....Section 40 .....

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05.....Section 40 .....

Date:.....31/3/08.....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 05 March 2008 11:41
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 29-02-2008-070338-002

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 28 February 2008 asking for the release of as many documents on UFOs and the alien phenomena as possible. Additionally, you asked for information on the above topic that is at Secret, Top Secret or above Top Secret level of classification. You also asked for the re-publication of any information on UFOs that might have been withdrawn from the MoD website. Further to that you asked for information on Peter Horsley and the Janus case.

You may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be commencing a programme to release some 160 UFO and UFO related files to the National Archive. The files from the Directorate of Air Staff and the Defence Intelligence Staff will cover the period from the late 1970s to 2007. The files themselves will be released in accordance with the same principles that the MoD applies when it releases information for Freedom of Information requests such as yours. The files will be released in chronological order and the programme is likely to take some three years to complete. A public announcement will be made when the first files are ready for viewing at the National Archive. Only a handful of files and documents are actually classified as Secret, but Ministers are content for them to be released, subject to Defence or National Security concerns (for example if they discuss radar capability or weapons capability). Whilst I have not looked at these documents recently, I expect that we will only need to withhold minimal amounts of information on these grounds. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

I am unaware of the MoD holding any files or documents on UFOs or aliens that are classified as Top Secret and there is no classification of Above Top Secret.

I am sorry to hear that you have had difficulty locating documents on UFOs on the MoD website. It is possible that there were difficulties with the website when you tried. Might I suggest that you search in both the Publication Scheme and the Disclosure Log under the subject of UFO. However, I can confirm that the MoD file on the so called Rendlesham Incident, together with information relating to the Corsham incident have been removed from the website.

Whilst investigating the best way to the release our UFO files, it became clear that placing letters from non MoD sources such as members of the public on our website, without the express agreement of the individuals who wrote those documents, would place the MoD in breach of copyright. Since the above documents contain a great many documents written by the public, and we simply do not have the resources to trace every individual who wrote to us, we recently (within the last week) withdrew the above document from publication. It may have been possible to leave the MoD documents on the website, but it was felt that the remaining documentation made little sense without the public correspondence that related to it. That having been said, not only will this information be released at a future date to the National Archive as part of the release programme I mentioned earlier, but we can still release the information to members of the public as part of a direct response to a Freedom of Information request as the responsibility for complying with copyright legislation effectively transfers to the individual requesting the information.

Finally, you have asked a copy of the Peter Horsley and Janus case file. I am unaware of any such

file existing.

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

EXP 31 MAR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 28 February 2008 12:56
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 29-02-2008-070338-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Thursday, February 28, 2008 at 12:55:50
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Maidstone

txtstatecountry: Kent

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Could you please release all or as much as many documents as possible regarding the UFO and alien phenomena.

I do believe that you are holding documents with the aformentioned information that are classified as "top secret" and "above top secret" because as Nick Pope (Ministry of defence, UFO desk 1991-1994) says "over the past few years we have seen the release of documents [about UFO's] which at the time have been classified as top secret"

I have tried your search bar with minimal success recently, (a few months back there were many documents on UFO's that would be displayed, Over 150 i do believe) is this because you have withdrawn them?

If so, under the FOIA, could i please request that these are published again.

Also could i request the Peter Horsley and 'Janus'. case file.
This is the case in which Mr Horsley believed that his mind was "being read by an alien" in a house in Chelsea. Mr Horsley said himself that this was investigated and is classified "Above Top Secret", so saying that you have not investigated the aformentioned case is not adequate.

Summing it up, could i please request under the FOIA:

1. As much information as possible about UFO's and aliens 2. As much information as possible about UFO's and aliens that is classifeied as "Secret, Top Secret or Above Top Secret"
3. Information on the Peter Horsley and 'Janus' case

Section 40

THIS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A REQUEST TO REVIEW OUR RESPONSE.

Section 40

10/3/08

From: Section 40

Sent: 06 March 2008 14:56

To: Section 40

Subject: RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 29-02-2008-070338-002

Thank you

however, one of the documents i viewed that has now been taken off the website WAS "above top secret", as it had stamped on it. So either you DO or did once use this classification.

I would also like to add that Mr Horsley himself claims that he WAS investigated by the MOD and has written about the events in his autobiography. I find the case so intriguing however that i thought i would make a FOIA request for it.

Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 29-02-2008-070338-002
Date: Wed, 5 Mar 2008 11:41:05 +0000
From: Section 40 @mod.uk
To: Section 40

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 28 February 2008 asking for the release of as many documents on UFOs and the alien phenomena as possible. Additionally, you asked for information on the above topic that is at Secret, Top Secret or above Top Secret level of classification. You also asked for the re-publication of any information on UFOs that might have been withdrawn from the MoD website. Further to that you asked for information on Peter Horsley and the Janus case.

You may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be commencing a programme to release some 160 UFO and UFO related files to the National Archive. The files from the Directorate of Air Staff and the Defence Intelligence Staff will cover the period from the late 1970s to 2007. The files themselves will be released in accordance with the same principles that the MoD applies when it releases information for Freedom of Information requests such as yours. The files will be released in chronological order and the programme is likely to take some three years to complete. A public announcement will be made when the first files are ready for viewing at the National Archive. Only a handful of files and documents are actually classified as Secret, but Ministers are content for them to be released, subject to Defence or National Security concerns (for example if they discuss radar capability or weapons capability). Whilst I have not looked at these documents recently, I expect that we will only need to withhold minimal amounts of information on these grounds. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

I am unaware of the MoD holding any files or documents on UFOs or aliens that are classified as Top Secret and there is no classification of Above Top Secret.

I am sorry to hear that you have had difficulty locating documents on UFOs on the MoD website. It is possible that there were difficulties with the website when you tried. Might

I suggest that you search in both the Publication Scheme and the Disclosure Log under the subject of UFO. However, I can confirm that the MoD file on the so called Rendlesham Incident, together with information relating to the Corsham incident have been removed from the website.

Whilst investigating the best way to the release our UFO files, it became clear that placing letters from non MoD sources such as members of the public on our website, without the express agreement of the individuals who wrote those documents, would place the MoD in breach of copyright. Since the above documents contain a great many documents written by the public, and we simply do not have the resources to trace every individual who wrote to us, we recently (within the last week) withdrew the above document from publication. It may have been possible to leave the MoD documents on the website, but it was felt that the remaining documentation made little sense without the public correspondence that related to it. That having been said, not only will this information be released at a future date to the National Archive as part of the release programme I mentioned earlier, but we can still release the information to members of the public as part of a direct response to a Freedom of Information request as the responsibility for complying with copyright legislation effectively transfers to the individual requesting the information.

Finally, you have asked a copy of the Peter Horsley and Janus case file. I am unaware of any such file existing.

I am sorry I could not be more helpful.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

14

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 19-02-2008-102533-002 **Expiry**:

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

To see copies of all correspondence, emails and other documents held relating to the sighting of UFOs over Archway, Islington 1 February 2007.

To know how many MOD employees, if any, investigated this and what their job titles are?

The amount of time investigating the sightings and the total cost?

Any final conclusions drawn.

Case for release of information

I have enclosed a copy of a letter regarding the sighting, that a member of a UFO research group sent in.
I have removed the personal details (names, addresses and numbers) in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Signature..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 21/2/08 .....

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40
Crouch End
London
Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
19-02-2008-102533-002
Date:
21 February 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for copies of any documents held relating to the UFO sighting over Archway, Islington on the 1 February 2007, if the sighting was investigated, the total cost of the investigation and the conclusions drawn. Your request has been passed to this Department as this office is the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to 'UFOs.'

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

Enclosed is a copy of the single piece of correspondence of the sighting that was sent to this Department by a member of a UFO research group. Personal details (names, addresses and telephone numbers) have been removed in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We received no other reports of this specific UFO sighting. The sighting was not investigated, in accordance with the policy outlined above.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an

internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

CONTACT INTERNATIONAL UFO RESEARCH

New Left to Document

[redacted]

[redacted]

1) Left message of this same sighting on answerphone on 5 February 07.

2) Anon - on database.

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

Section 40

03 02 2007

Dear Sir/Madam

Iam writing to you regarding multi witness sighting of 12 to 15 orange balls of light, seen at Archway N19 Islington, London. on 01 02 2007 at 17:25 to 17:35. They moved across the sky not to quickly, stopped, moved on then deminished, faded away or moved upwards.

Can you please supply me with the following information CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT

1. You received reports of the above sightings, if so how many? None.
2. The objects were tracked on radar {Heathrow airport or any other radar system.
3. The sightings were attributed to fragments of a comet.

I hope this request does not cause you any inconvenience, I await your reply.

Yours Faithfully

[redacted]

DAS
102No
6 FEB 2007
FILE

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 18 February 2008 15:19
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 19-02-2008-102533-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 15:19:29

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: Crouch End

txttowncity: London

txtstatecountry: UK

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: I am requesting:

* to see copies of all correspondance, emails and other documents held relating to the sighting of unidentified flying objects over Archway, Islington, on February 1, 2007.

* to know how many MoD employees, if any, investigated this and what their job titles are

* the amount of time spent investigating the sightings and total cost

* any final conclusions drawn.

for your information, the sighting is recorded here: http://www.mod.uk/NR/rdonlyres/F4CA3F1D-A826-4B92-9678-1162D6FCE8CF/0/ufo_report_2007.pdf

under the act you have 20 working days to reply.

13

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 19 February 2008 15:12
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-Authorised: FOI Request-11-02-2008-125430-005.

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking where you can access the MOD UFO reports seen in the national newspapers on 8 February 2008. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

With regard to your request for the reports seen in the newspapers, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has details of reports from 1997 to 2007 and can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under UFO reports.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

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

E.mail – das-ufo-office@mod.uk

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 08 February 2008 09:54
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 11-02-2008-125430-005 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, February 8, 2008 at 09:54:23

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname Section 40

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Glasgow

txtstatecountry: Scotland

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: Andorra

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: Please point me to the MOD report which is being udes by these newspapers today, 08/02/08

http://news.google.co.uk/news?hl=en&tab=wn&ned=uk&ie=UTF-8&ncl=1129628414

Yours

Section 40

12

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

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

Section 40

Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
Section 40

Our Reference
11-02-2008-091655-002

Date
11 February 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 10 February 2008 asking for any and all files relating to an alleged UFO sighting on 9 September 1960 in the Newcastle and County Durham area.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at http//:www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

Additionally, the MoD has published details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 on its website at www.mod.uk. They can be found by searching under the phrase "UFO Reports".

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

EXP = 10 MAR 08

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 10 February 2008 01:08
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 11-02-2008-091655-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Sunday, February 10, 2008 at 01:07:47
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Newcastle Upon Tyne

txtstatecountry: Tyne and Wear

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtinforequest: At approx 9pm on September 9th 1960 a Section 40
Otley witnessed what he described as a large triangular shaped UFO
fly low over the Section 40 of Newcastle Upon Tyne, he claimed there
was 3 very bright white lights in each corner and a red light in the
centre, a Section 40 claimed to have witnessed either the same craft
or a similar craft around 1 hour before flying over Consett in the
County Durham area.
Both men contacted RAF ackrington who in turn forwarded 2 reports to
the Air Ministry.
I would like to request under the freedom of Information Act 2000 any
and all files relating to this event.
Thank you
Section 40

11E

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 28-01-2008-094217-002 Expiry: 25 Feb 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Copies of photos and videos of UFOs held by the MoD.

Estmate of cost of exercise if MoD states unable to provide information due to cost.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Costings – 1file takes 1 hour to read
160 files take 160 hours
160 hours at £25 = £4000

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05. Section 40

Date: 24/1/08

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

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

Section 40
News of the World (Features)
1 Virginia Street
Wapping
London
E98 1NW

Our Reference
28-01-2008-094217-002

Date
29 January 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 January 2008 asking for copies of, or access to, any photographs or videos of UFOs held by the Ministry of Defence (MoD). You state that this refers to all records held by the MoD, without time limit. You also asked for an estimate of the cost of answering your request.

The MoD holds records relating to UFOs on some 160 files covering a period of over quarter of a century. Searching through 160 files would far 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.

Having said that, if you could restrict your request to one or two years, I may be able to assist you.

However, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is 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 1984 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Additionally, we have placed details of sighting received between 1997 and 2006 on the MoD website at www.mod.uk which can be found by searching under *UFO reports*. We will shortly also be placing the reports for 2007 on the website. Additionally, the MoD will be placing the 160 UFO files mentioned above in the National Archive as part of a three year programme that will commence this spring.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 29 January 2008 15:28
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 28-01-2008-094217-002

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 26 January 2008 asking for copies of, or access to, any photographs or videos of UFOs held by the Ministry of Defence (MoD). You state that this refers to all records held by the MoD, without time limit. You also asked for an estimate of the cost of answering your request.

The MoD holds records relating to UFOs on some 160 files covering a period of over quarter of a century. Searching through 160 files would far 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.

Having said that, if you could restrict your request to one or two years, I may be able to assist you.

However, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is 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 1984 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Additionally, we have placed details of sighting received between 1997 and 2006 on the MoD website at www.mod.uk which can be found by searching under *UFO reports*. We will shortly also be placing the reports for 2007 on the website. Additionally, the MoD will be placing the 160 UFO files mentioned above in the National Archive as part of a three year programme that will commence this spring.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]
DAS-FOI

29/01/2008

H [redacted] Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

29/01/2008

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 26 January 2008 12:16
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 28-01-2008-094217-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Saturday, January 26, 2008 at 12:15:49
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Journalist

txtorganisation: News of the World

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: London

txtstatecountry: London

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest:

FOI Officer
Ministry of Defence

January 26, 2008

Re: Pictures and Videos of UFOs

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for copies of, or access to copy, any photographs or videos of UFOs (unidentified flying objects) held by the Ministry of Defence.

More specifically, I am requesting the following:

Copies of, or access to copy, any photographs (or similar images) and video footage held by the Ministry of Defence of unidentified flying objects, or incidents which have been suspected, or first claimed, to show unidentified flying objects. This relates to all records held by the Ministry of Defence, without time limit.

If there are any problems with this request, please do not hesitate to contact me, on this email address or the contact details below.

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all non-exempt material. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to charge excessive fees.

If you feel it necessary to exempt the information because you estimate the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit, I would ask that you simultaneously provide me with an estimate of the total cost of compliance, so this can be considered.
However, I would be happy to discuss the scope of the request at the earliest opportunity.

I understand that under the FOIA, I am entitled to a response within 20 working days. I would ask that you provide the information firstly in electronic form, by email, to Section 40 [redacted], and then by post to:

Section 40 [redacted]
News of the World (Features)
Section 40 [redacted]
London
Section 40 [redacted]

I look forward to hearing from you within the statutory time period.

I would also be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request, again, firstly by email, to
Section 40 [redacted], and then to the postal address above.
I ask for a postal reply in addition to email due to earlier problems with email. I apologise if this causes any inconvenience.

If there are any problems with this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Section 40 [redacted]

10

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 02-01-2008-065115-004 **Expiry**:

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Please can you tell me how many UFO sightings have been recorded from the county of Dorset over the last five years?
What was sighted, when and where from?
How many of these reports were investigated by the Ministry of Defence's UFO unit?

Case for withholding information

I have withheld information of sighting reports for the year 2007 as it will be placed on the website in due course.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

I have used exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication).

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Signature..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 25/1/08 .....

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40 - Reporter
Daily Echo Bournemouth
Richmond Hill
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH15 1QP

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
02-01-2008-065115-004
Date:
25 January 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for details of how many UFO sighting reports have recorded over the last five years in the county of Dorset, and how many of those reports were investigated by the Ministry of Defence.

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

With regard to UFO sighting reports for the county of Dorset over the last five years, the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website has a database containing records for the years 1998 to 2007. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' reports.

Reports for the year 2007 will be placed on the website in due course. Therefore, as provided by exemption s.22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The MOD is not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

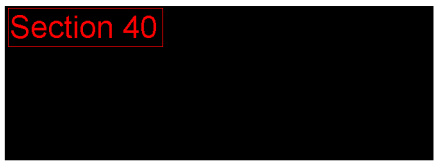
As to your question regarding the Ministry of Defence investigating UFO sighting reports, this branch deals with all enquiries regarding UFO sightings and correspondence, and I can confirm that in the last five years, no sighting reports from the county of Dorset have been investigated.

Finally, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and those with records up to 1986 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made with 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely



-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 28 December 2007 17:32
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 02-01-2008-065115-004 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, December 28, 2007 at 17:32:00

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: reporter

txtorganisation: Daily Echo Bournemouth

txtaddress1: Daily Echo

txtaddress2: Richmond Hill

txttowncity: Bournemouth

txtstatecountry: Dorset

txtzipcodepostcode: BH15 1QP

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Please can you tell me how many UFO sightings have been recorded from the county of Dorset over the last five years?
What was sighted, when and where from?
How many of these reports were investigated by the Ministry of Defence's UFO Unit?

Thank you very much for your help.

Kind regards
Section 40 [redacted]

9

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 24-01-2008-151924-008 Expiry: 19 Feb 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

General request for the British X Files

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05... Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 25/1/08

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 25 January 2008 15:02
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 24-01-2008-151924-008

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request asking for the "British X Files".

Firstly, in the interests of accuracy for your dissertation, there are no such things as "British X-files". As I am sure you can guess, this is a shorthand developed by the media after the television series. The MoD does however, have a number of files (some 160) on the subject of UFOs which may or may not cover what you view as the "paranormal", as members of the public write to the MoD on a wide range of subjects from UFO sightings and alien abductions to religion and the supernatural.

The MoD has recently commenced a programme to release these files to the National Archive which will take a number of years to complete. We will make a public announcement when the first files are available for viewing. The cost of releasing these files to you would far exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. However, if you would refine your request, perhaps to a single clearly defined question covering a clearly defined time period (I would suggest no more than a year), we may be able to assist you.

However, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files (which may well cover letters from the public on the subject of the paranormal) 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 the mid 1980s are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Additionally, we have placed details of sighting received between 1997 and 2006 on the MoD website at www.mod.uk which can be found by searching under *UFO reports*. We will shortly also be placing the reports for 2007 on the website.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more help and I would like to take the opportunity to wish you success with your dissertation.

[redacted]ours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
05-H Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 23 January 2008 20:05
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 24-01-2008-151924-008 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at 20:04:54
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtoccupation: Student

txtorganisation: Section 40

txtemailAddress:

txtinforequest: I am a final year student at Section 40 and am currently researching for my dissertation concerning paranormal activity. I have been informed that I can request the British X files, to help aid my research if this is possible it would be greatly appreciated.
Thank you very much for your time.
Section 40

8

AUTHORISATION TO WITHHOLD REQUESTED INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 23-01-2008-100948-002 **Expiry**:

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Section 40 [redacted] has asked for information regarding all UFO incident files.

Case for withholding information

I have with held the information due to the fact that the amount of work would exceed the £600 limit set by the Freedom of Information Act.

Proposed use of the following FOI Exemptions

Section 12 has been applied due to the personal information that would need to be redacted. The Data Protection Act 1998.

Authorisation

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

Grade/Rank: ..... B2 ..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Signature.... Section 40 [redacted] .....

Date:..... 14/1/08 .....

From: Section 40
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information 1

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

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

Section 40

Braunton
North Devon
Section 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
23-01-2008-100948-002
Date:
24 January 2008

Dear Section 40

I am writing concerning your Freedom of Information request asking for information regarding UFO incident files. Your request has been passed to this Department as we are the focal point within the Ministry of Defence for correspondence relating to UFOs.

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

With regards to information on UFO incidents, copies of UFO sighting reports are not held electronically, but are filed on paper files in the order in which they are 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 reports, the costs would 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.

Details of sighting reports for the years 1997 up to 2007, are held on the Ministry of Defence Freedom of Information website. This can be accessed via the internet at: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomofInformation/PublicationScheme, by searching under 'UFO' reports.

Finally, you may wish to be aware that the MOD already has a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MOD files were routinely destroyed after five 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 1986 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 22 January 2008 13:36
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request 23-01-2008-100948-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 13:35:31

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtaddress1: [redacted]

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: Braunton

txtstatecountry: North Devon

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtinforequest: please could you forward to me any information regarding all ufo incedent files.I am not a mad ufo spotter or anthing like that but i did however see something some time ago in the sky that was defenetly not of this earth and it would just be reasuring to see similar reports and mod response to this matter many thanks.

7

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 21-01-2008-072002-011 Expiry: 15 Feb 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Details and explanation for orange lights reported to MoD together with photos and film.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B2 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05 Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 23/1/2008

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2008 12:28
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 21-01-2008-072002-011

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 20 January 2008 asking if the MoD had received any reports about an "orange phenomenon" and whether the MoD had any explanation for it. Additionally, you asked whether the MoD had any photographs or videos of them.

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

Turning to your question asking whether we had ever received reports and photographs or film on this topic, I should inform you that we currently hold records spanning a quarter of a century. To identify records and or photographs and film specifically referring to orange lights, a manual search would be required, and the costs to do this would exceed the permitted £600 cost limit set for compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, and as provided by Section 12 of the Act, therefore, the Ministry of Defence is not obliged to comply with your request. However, if you would refine your request to cover a specific year, we may be able to assist you.

However, you may also wish to be aware that the MOD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is 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 1984 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. Additionally, we have placed details of sighting received between 1997 and 2006 on the MoD website at www.mod.uk which can be found by searching under *UFO reports*. We will shortly also be placing the reports for 2007 on the website.

I hope this is helpful. If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of this request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB (e-mail InfoXD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Section 40
DAS-FOI
Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 20 January 2008 02:42
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 21-01-2008-072002-011 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, January 20, 2008 at 02:41:45

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2: N/A

txttowncity: Beverley

txtstatecountry: East Yorkshire

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: Has the MoD received any UFO reports about a "orange orb" phenomenom. I myself have witnessed these orange lights. They seem to be high in altitude and number from between 2 to 30. What is the MoD's response/explanation of these sightings? Have there been any photos/videos taken of them?

6

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40

Case Number: 11-01-2008-113155-001 Expiry: 1 Feb 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

For West Midlands area on 5 specified nights in Nov and Dec 07 were there any military aircraft in flight between 6-11pm, were any aircraft scrambled to intercept UFOs, were there any radar reports of such objects did RAF Cosford and RAF Shawbury receive any reports of unusual lights in the sky.

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

There is no problem in confirming aircraft were not scrambled and no reports of lights were received.

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ..B2.. Name:..... Section 40 .....

Section 40

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05.

Date:.....23/1/2008.....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2008 10:28
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: UNUSUAL AIR ACTIVITY

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of 4 January 2008 asking about unusual air activity in the West Midlands on 5 dates covering November and December 2007. You also asked if any aircraft were scrambled to intercept a UFO and whether radar records were obtained of any such objects. It has been passed to his office to answer as we have responsibility for UFO matters. It is being treated as a Freedom of Information request.

I have spoken with colleagues and can confirm that neither RAF Cosford or Shawbury received reports of unusual lights over the West Midlands on the dates given and no aircraft were scrambled to intercept UFOs. For your information, you may be interested to know that the MoD will shortly be placing details of UFO sighting reports for the year 2007 on its website www.mod.uk.

The MoD does not have centralised records of every military aircraft flight in the UK. The costs of trying to obtain the information from each flying station in the country would 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.

Likewise, the costs of finding out whether radar tapes showed unusual air activity on the dates given would also exceed £600 and again under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, we are not obliged to comply with your request.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more help.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]
DAS-FOI
05-H-Section 40 [redacted]
MoD Main Building
Whitehall
London

23/01/2008

1A 2HB

11-01-2008-117155-001
EXP 1 FEB 08

-----Original Message-----
From: Birmingham UFO Goup [mailto Section 40
Sent: 04 January 2008 22:02
To: Section 40 cosford.raf.mod.uk; cro@direct.shawburyigs.raf.mod.uk
Subject: Unusual air activity

Could you please confirm whether on the following dates :

3rd November 2007
28th November 2007
24th December 2007
25th December 2007
1st Jan 2008

In the West Midlands area of Oldbury, Wolverhampton, Dudley & Birmingham

If there were any Military aircraft in flight between 6.00pm and 11.00pm
If any aircraft were scrambled to intercept unidentified Flying objects
If any radar records were obtained of any such objects
And if the Base received any reports of unusual lights in the sky on these dates.

Objects seen were orange lights and a black triangle, no sound was heard from any of the sightings

Regards
Section 40
Chairman
Birmingham UFO Group

www.bufog.com

Section 40

From: COS-DCAE-MCCO [Section 40@cosford.raf.mod.uk]
Sent: 11 January 2008 11:22
To: Section 40
Subject: Release-authorised: UNUSUAL AIR ACTIVITY

Section 40

Further to my e-mail yesterday and your supplementary question, please see the question put to - and the answer received from - SATCO at Cosford. Thank you.

Question to SATCO
Further to the below and your e-mail confirming no activity as airfield was closed from 19 Dec 07, what about for the dates 3 Nov 07 and 28 Nov 07?
Specifically, for those dates:
a. Were there any military ac in flight (presumably over the areas referred to, i.e Oldbury, Wolverhampton, Dudley & Birmingham) between 1800 -2300 hrs?
b. On the same dates and times, did the unit receive any reports of unusual lights in the sky?
Apologies for supplementary question

Answer
The simple answer to both questions in no.
If I may explain further, the airfield at DCAE Cosford is a daylight hours only operating airfield i.e. we do not have any night flying capability whatsoever at DCAE Cosford. Furthermore, UBAS operations are between the hours of 0800-1700 (Mon-Fri) and 0800-1600 (Sat-Sun). That said, the WMAA helicopter may well return from a call-out after the airfield has closed and this may well be during the early evening hours. However, I have liased with Air Ambulance Operations and they have confirmed that their ac were on the ground by 1700 both days.

Section 40
Sqn Ldr
MCCO
Ext Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

5

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 09 January 2008 11:17
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 19-12-2007-132257-002

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 19 December 2007 asking whether the MoD had provisions to deal with a potential extra-terrestrial landing on earth. Additionally, you asked which units and technology were allocated for this purpose and for all documentation relating to government plans for such a landing.

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

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more help.

Yours sincerely,

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 19 December 2007 13:33
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 19-12-2007-132257-002 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on
Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at 13:33:10
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Dear Sir/Madam

My request under the FOI act is as follows:

Does the MOD have provisions to deal with a potential extra terrestrial landing on Earth?

If so, where exactly are the units and what technology is available to cope?

May I please have addresses and details of the units allocated for this purpose?

Which department(s) would deal with this and are there specific personnel allocated to this task?

Please send me all documents in relation to the governmentâ€™s plans for ET landings.

If you cannot answer all these questions please send me as much information as possible.

Many thanks

4

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 02-01-2008-064024-001 Expiry: 29 Jan 08

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

All information released since 2000 on the subject of Rendlesham

Case for release of information

This request is likely to exceed £600 and is therefore exempted under section 12 of the Act.

Requester has been asked to narrow the scope of his request.

Also directed to MoD website

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to withhold the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: ...B2..... Name:..... Section 40 [redacted] ...

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

Date:.....8/1/08.....

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 08 January 2008 11:54
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 02-01-2008-064024-001

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 28 December 2007 requesting copies of all information released since 2000 relating to the Rendlesham Forest Incident in 1980.

The costs of answering your query would 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. However, if you would narrow the scope of your request to cover one or two particular years, I will attempt to help you. That having been said the MoD file on the subject is available to view on our website www.mod.uk in the Publication Scheme by searching under the word *Rendlesham*.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

I am sorry I could not be of more help.

Yours sincerely,

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 28 December 2007 14:58
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 02-01-2008-064024-001 Section 40
Importance: High

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Friday, December 28, 2007 at 14:58:07

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: paranormal investigator

txtorganisation: paranormal investigation network essex

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: [redacted]

txttowncity: basildon

txtstatecountry: essex

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txttelephone: Section 40

txtinforequest: all info released since 2000 relating to the rendlesham forest/woodbridge ufo incident 1980

Section 40

3

From: Section 40

Sent: 07 January 2008 14:52

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 05-12-2007-075505-005

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 4 December 2007 asking whether a UFO sighting over Bognor on 4 October 2007 had been reported to the MoD. Additionally, you asked whether any aircraft were in the vicinity at the time.

The alleged incident has not been reported to this office which acts as the focal point for UFO reports across the MoD, although we have received a number of Freedom of Information requests on the matter, including your own.

The MoD does not routinely retain radar tape records beyond 30 days and we are therefore unable to answer the second part of your question. It is however, possible that the Civil Aviation Authority may be able to help you. What I can confirm is that the MoD did not send aircraft up on an intercept mission or redirect aircraft already airborne to intercept. No military aircraft were booked into the low flying system in that area.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 04 December 2007 17:18
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 05-12-2007-075505-005 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at 17:17:37

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtoccupation: retired Police

txtorganisation: na

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2:

txttowncity: Alvechurch

txtstatecountry: Worcestesrhire

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txttelephone: Section 40

txtinforequest: I'm currently researching into a report of a saucer 'dome shaped object seen over the Felpham area of Bognor Regis at 5.55pm on the 4th of October 2007, by local residents Section 40 and his Wife Section 40

I gather from conversation with the couple that the objects were initially seen as something resembling two balloons of a pink hue in the sky , before metamorphosing into two silvery pulsating objects 'dancing about in the sky' further observation revealed the presence of what looked like saucer shaped objects,

Can you please confirm, that this matter has been reported to you.

Can you also confirm whether there were any aircraft in the vicinity, as I am told two RAF Jets were seen on what may have been presmued an intercept course, following the appearance of the objects.

I look forward to hearing from you Section 40

2

AUTHORISATION FOR THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Applicant: Section 40 [redacted]

Case Number: 04-12-2007-112832-004 Expiry: 7 Jan 2008

The Applicant has made the following request for information:

Did MoD alert its aircrew to a UFO sighting near Bogner on 4 Oct 07

Copies of documents MoD holds on subject.

Case for release of information

There is no objection to the release of this material.

Some personal information has been withheld under exemption s.40

Authorisation

I hereby give authorisation to release the aforementioned information

Grade/Rank: B1 Name: Section 40 [redacted]

Authorisation Reference Number: DAS-FOI 08/05

Date: 2/1/08

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 [redacted]
Sent: 02 January 2008 11:30
To: Section 40 [redacted]
Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 04-12-2007-112832-004
Attachments: Section 40 Attachment.mdi

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request of 4 December 2007 asking whether aircrew were alerted to an alleged UFO incident near Bognor on 4 October 2007. Additionally, you requested copies of any documents the MoD holds relating to this alleged incident.

Firstly, I can confirm that air crew were not alerted to this incident. The alleged sighting has not been reported to this office which acts as the focal point for UFO reports across the MoD, although we have received a small number of Freedom of Information questions on the matter, including your own. I attach copies of the documents the MoD holds on the alleged incident. You will notice that names and telephone numbers of officials have been withheld under exemption s.40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]

From: [redacted] Wg Cdr
Sent: 03 December 2007 16:08
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40
Categories: FOI

[redacted]

You may wish to see the response provided below to a very similar request

[redacted]

[redacted]
Wg Cdr
SO1 Air & Ops Dev
CT & UK Ops
MOD Main Building
[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 December 2007 16:05
To: [redacted] Wg Cdr
Subject: FW: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40

Similar to your FOI request.

[redacted]
CT & UK Ops Pol 1b
[redacted]

From: [redacted] SQN LDR
Sent: 29 November 2007 13:51
To: [redacted] Sqn Ldr ; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Wg Cdr
Subject: RE: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40

The assets committed to the QRA mission remain standard and were so on 4th Oct. There were no live launches of any of these assets on the date in question for unplanned incursions of or perceived threats to the UK or NATO airspace. There was however a training launch of one aircraft from RAF Leuchars in the afternoon of the date in question; the aircraft was tasked to work in the North Sea and was all times under the control of the ASACS community.

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
SO2 F3 Ops
HQ 1 Gp
[redacted]

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or there are problems please notify the sender and then delete the e-mail (and file(s) if

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REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

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

From: [redacted] Sqn Ldr
Sent: 29 November 2007 12:58
To: [redacted] SQN LDR
Cc: Smith, [redacted]
Subject: RE: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40

[redacted]

I have nothing to indicate any launch on 4th Oct. You might wish to try the CAOC as they keep records of all such activity.

[redacted]

Can you shed any light?

[redacted]
Sqn Ldr
PSO/AOC 1 Gp
[redacted]

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

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 November 2007 12:25
To: [redacted] Sqn Ldr ; [redacted]
Subject: FW: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006
Section 40

Dear both,
Please see the FOI request below.
Could you please task this to the relevant person to find out if we hold any info on this?
I would appreciate a response if possible nlt Thursday 6/12 at 1700

Regards,

[redacted]
RAF Business Secretariat
AIR COMMAND
RAF High Wycombe
[redacted]
[redacted]

Email: [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 November 2007 12:12
To: Air CmdSecCS-RAF Parli Business
Subject: Release-Authorised: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REDACTION ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

[redacted]ir,

Can you take?

[redacted]

Info-AccessOps5

[redacted]

Main Building

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 27 November 2007 15:42
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: foi email request 27-11-2007-154550-006 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted
on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 15:42:09
---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: [redacted]

txtoccupation: Radio and TV Presenter

txtorganisation: Glastonbury Broadcasting Ltd

txtemailAddress: Section 40 [redacted]

txttelephone: Section 40 [redacted]

txtinforequest: Could you please confirm that two RAF jets were scrambled to confront an alleged UFO over Bognor on October 4th?

Section 40 [redacted]
Glastonbury Radio

Section 40

04-12-2007-112832-004
EXP 7 JAN 08

From: Section 40

Sent: 04 December 2007 10:59

To: Section 40

Subject: Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-11-2007-154550-006 AND TO07013/2007

Dear Section 40

Thankyou for your kind response to the matter of the alleged Bognor UFO incident.

May I ask two further questions for the purpose of total clarity:

1) Were any aircrew alerted to this object and tasked to investigate?
2) I would be grateful for copies of any documents the MoD holds relating to this alleged incident.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter

Section 40

Section 40
Presenter of the worldwide syndicated hit programme Now THAT'S Weird - www.nowthatsweird.co.uk
View my blog at http://blog.myspace.com/Section 40

----- Original Message -----
From: Section 40
To: Section 40
Sent: Tuesday, December 04, 2007 10:09 AM
Subject: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-11-2007-154550-006 AND TO07013/2007

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail to Des Browne, the Secretary of State for Defence, regarding the scrambling of RAF jets to investigate an alleged UFO sighting near Bognor on 4th October 2007. It has been passed to this branch to answer as we have responsibility for this subject. Additionally, you raised a Freedom of Information request on the same topic. I shall both queries in the same e-mail.

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

Turning to your actual question, I can confirm that no aircraft were launched to investigate this matter.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 02 January 2008 10:07

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 27-12-2007-072540-003

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 23 December 2007 asking for details of a UFO sighting between Great Bircham and Docking in the 1960s.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

Additionally, the MoD has published details of UFO sightings for the period 1998-2006 on its website at www.mod.uk. They can be found by searching under the phrase "UFO Reports". It is hoped that we will also be in a position to publish details for 2007 in the very near future.

If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Director of Information Exploitation, 6th Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Info-XD@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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Yours sincerely,

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

-----Original Message-----
From: feedback@www.mod.uk [mailto:feedback@www.mod.uk]
Sent: 23 December 2007 00:48
To: Info-Access-Office
Subject: FOI written request PS 27-12-2007-072540-003 Section 40

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Sunday, December 23, 2007 at 00:48:27

---

txttitle: Section 40

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname:

txtaddress1:

txtaddress2: kings lynn norfolk

txttowncity: kings lynn norfolk

txtstatecountry: norfolk

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: UK

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtinforequest: I am requesting info of a unidentified flying object sighted between great Bircham and Docking in the 1960's a man by the name of robin peck reported this .Any info on this subject would greatly received.

regard Section 40