



1325-7 (DHIST)

National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K2

6 July 1976

Mr. Arthur Bray
c/o Canada Safety Council
1765 St Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 3V4

Dear Mr. Bray:

Your request for access to this department's records of unidentified flying object sightings has been considered, with the following findings:

1. The file titles include the phrase "unidentified objects", omitting the word "flying", and the files therefore contain a considerable amount of irrelevant material, some of which properly bears security classifications.
2. Besides the reports of sightings, the files contain internal departmental correspondence which are exempt from release under Cabinet Directive No. 45.
3. Each report includes the name and address of the observer, and, since the information was given to the department on the understanding that the observer would not be publicly identified, the reports cannot be released in their present form.
4. Some of the reports were made through RCMP channels and cannot be released without the concurrence of that force.

The following procedure is therefore proposed:

1. Photocopy the reports made to this department and place these copies in a new file.
2. Obliterate the name and address of the observer in each report.
3. Place the file in this directorate's document collection for future reference.

You will then be able to see the information provided to this department by the people who actually saw the phenomena.

I regret that this process will take a considerable amount of time because of personnel on leave, the department's commitment to the Olympic games and a project that will require all other work in this directorate to be put aside for the next three weeks.

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