The National Archives

FILE NOTE

The numbering on this file is somewhat unusual in that the pages appear to be in the reverse order to normal MoD practice. In this case, the pages are filed with the earliest pages on top, rather than at the bottom of the file. It is not clear why this is the case, but this structure has been retained for the transfer to The National Archives.

DAS-FOI
10 June 2008

RESTRICTED/UNCLASSIFIED

MOD Form 329D (Revised 3/83)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

1998

Date opened
27th July 1992

Registered file number
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Part No. J

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
Sec(AS)2a

SUBJECT Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) Correspondence

RECEIVED 11 NOV 2002

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

MOD
DR 1
15 DEC 1999
SECOND REVIEW

2017

Section 40

Part K 100

SENT OUT DATE:-
Ext Section 40
From DINFO(EXP)R2
Bourne Avenue
Hayes Middx UB3 1RF

MAY 2003

A83-3A2-1-7

FOR DRO USE ONLY

1st Review date

2nd Review date

Section 40

File Ref: SEC(AS)12/3

Part: J

PA

(MOD Form 262F must be completed)

RCU000335681

RESTRICTED/UNCLASSIFIED

Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by R.P.W. 6/86. Ltd. 8417983

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	24/9/92	E46
	1/10/92	E47
	1/10/92	E48
	1/10/92	E49
	30/9/92	E50
	2/10/92	E51
	5/10/92	E52
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Section 40

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Registered File Disposal Form

MOD Form 262F
(Revised 10/97)

FILE TITLE: (Main Heading - Secondary Heading - Tertiary Heading etc)
UFOs - correspondence

Reference:
(Prefix and Number): DISEC(AS)1213
Part: 5

PROTECTIVE MARKING (including caveats & descriptors): UIC

Date of last enclosure: 25.11.92

Date closed: 25.11.92

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

Destroy after _____ years ☐

Forward to CS(RM) after _____ years ☐

No recommendation ☐ ✓

FOR CS(RM) USE ONLY

MOD DR 1			
Date of 1st review: 15 DEC 1999	Date of 2nd review		Forward Destruction Date
Reviewer's Signature: SECOND REVIEW		Reviewer's Signature:	

PART 2. BRANCH REVIEW
(To be completed not later than 4 years after the date of the last enclosure)
(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 returned to CS(RM)). ☐ ✓

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

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

Section 40

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 CS(RM) for permanent preservation ☐

c. Of no further administrative value but worthy of consideration by CS(RM) for permanent preservation. ☑

PART 3. BRANCH REVIEWER

Signature: Section 40

Name: Section 40 (Block Capitals)

Grade/Rank: HEO Date: 22.11.99
(Not below HEO/equivalent)

Branch Title and Full Address:

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CS (AS) 2
ROOM Section 40
MAIN BUILDING
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1 2HB

Tel No: Section 40

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 CS(RM) USE ONLY)

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

F1oo

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 25 November 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter dated 17 November, and for sending a copy of the "UFO hypothesis and survival questions" paper, by the late Lambros Callimahos. I would be interested in seeing the article that you are producing; we are always interested in seeing serious research on the UFO phenomenon.

On another matter, when we last spoke, you passed me details of a sighting that had occurred in Stapleford, Derbyshire. You may be interested to know that we have still received no other reports that might tie in with what was seen; I would by now have expected to have received details of any other such sightings. I wish you luck with your own investigation.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Ministry of Defence,
Section 40
Secretariat(Air Staff)2a,
Room Section 40
Main Building Whitehall,
London SW1 2HB

Section 40

Date: 17 NOV 1992

Dear Section 40

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of the "UFO HYPOTHESIS" written by late Lambros D. Callimahos, a senior NSA cryptologist. These records were released by NSA through the provisions of the FOIA.

I am currently putting together an article about his opinion on Communication with the Extraterrestrial Intelligence", and the opinion of another selected scientists on this subject. My writing is based on interviews I had with them in the past. Their views on this subject is quite academic and far from what the laymen in the UFO field perceive today on such a possibility, which sooner or later the man has to face with.

Please let me know if you would be interested, I would be happy to send you a copy once I finish it.

Sincerely,

Section 40

1968

DRAFT

U F O HYPOTHESIS AND SURVIVAL QUESTIONS

It is the purpose of this monograph to consider briefly some of the human survival implications suggested by the various principal hypothesis concerning the nature of the phenomena loosely categorised as U F O (1).

1. ALL UFO's ARE HOAXES: From the time when hoaxes were first noted in history, they were characterized by infrequency of occurrance and usually by a considerable restriction of their geographical extent. Rarely have men of science, while acting within their professional capacities, perpetrated hoaxes: The fact that UFO phenomenon have been witnessed all over the world from ancient times, and by considerable numbers of reputable scientists in recent times, indicates rather strongly that UFO's are not all hoaxes.(2) RATHER THAN DIMINISHING, If anything, the modern trend is toward increased reports, from all sources. In one three month period in 1953 (June, July, and August) Air Force records show 35 sightings whose nature could not be determined (3). If UFO's, contrary to all

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(1) All flying, sailing or maneuvering aerial objects whether glowing, pulsating, or of a constant metalic hue, whose shape is somewhat circular or cigarish.

(2) Anatomy of a Phenomenon, Jacques Vallee, Henry Regnery Co. Chicago, 1965. p 9-17. (Vallee has degrees in Astronomy and Physics and is currently consultant to NASA's MARS MAP STUDY.)

(3) United States Air Force Projects Grudge and Bluebook Reports 1-12 (1951-1953) National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena. Washington June 1968. p 216.

(4) Visitors from Outer Space, Sputnik, (condensed from the almanac on Land and Sea) Vyacheslav Zaitsev, p 169-181.

DRAFT

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indications and expectations, are indeed homes - homes of a world-wide dimension - homes of increasing frequency, then a human mental aberration of alarming proportions would appear to be developing. Such an aberration would seem to have serious implications for nations equipped with nuclear toys - and should require immediate and careful study by scientists.

2. ALL UFO's ARE HALLUCINATIONS: People, of course, do hallucinate. Although groups of people hallucinating is rare, it has been known to happen. Machines have their own form of hallucination; the radar, in particular, "sees" temperature inversions. But a considerable number of instances exist in which there are groups of people and a radar or radars seeing the same thing at the same time; sometimes a person and a gunsamera confirm each other's testimony(4). On occasion, physical evidence of a circumstantial nature was reported to have been found to support witnessed sightings (5). A continuing high percentage of reports of unusual aerial objects are being reported by people in responsible positions in science, government, and industry.(6). The sum of such evidence seems to argue strongly against all UFO's being hallucinations. In spite of all the evidence to the contrary, if UFO's did turn out to be largely illusionary, the psychological implications for man would on next page

(4) ibid., p 203, 192, 149, 146

(5) op. cit., Vallee, p. 70,71, 74.

(6) The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Edward J. Ruppelt, Doubleday, New York 1956. p 242. (Ruppelt was Chief of the Bluebook Study at one time.)

DRAFT

certainly bring into strong question his ability to distinguish reality from fantasy. The negative effect on man's ability to survive in an increasingly complex world would be considerable - making it imperative that such a growing impairment of the human capacity for rational judgment be subjected to immediate and thorough scientific study - so that the illness could be controlled before it reaches epidemic proportions (7). (For comments on mass hysteria and UFO's see source 8 below which contains a statement by Dr. Robert L. Hall, a social psychologist formerly with the AF Personnel and Training Research Center and the Program Director, Sociology and Psychology, National Science Foundation.)

3. ALL UFO's ARE NATURAL PHENOMENA: If this hypothesis is correct the capability of air warning systems to correctly diagnose an attack situation is open to serious question.

(→24)a. Many UFO's have been reported by trained military observers to behave like high speed, high performance, high altitude rockets or aircraft. The apparent solidity and craft-like shape of the objects have often been subject to radar confirmation (9). If such objects can appear to trained military men as rockets or air craft and if such objects

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(7) op. cit., Ruppelt p 237 (Dutch Liner, Rome, Italy)

(8) Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects (Second Session). July 29, 1968 nr 7 (House Committee on Science and Astronautics).

(9) op. cit., Project Grudge, pp.192, 149, 146.

DRAFT

should come over the Arctic from the direction of Russia on the United States, they could trigger "false reports of missile attacks". (10)

b. Many responsible military officers have developed a mental "blind spot" to objects which appear to have the characteristics of UFO's. (10) Such an attitude is an open invitation to the enemy to build a replica of the phenomena in order to penetrate the "hole" in his adversaries' defenses - Was this the purpose of the lens shaped reentry vehicle tested by the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and recently featured in the Washington, D.C. Evening Star, dated 24 September 1968, page A4?

c. Sometimes the phenomena appear to defy radar detection and to cause massive electromagnetic interference. Surely it is very important to discover the nature of these objects or plasmas before any prospective enemy can use their properties to build a device or system to circumvent or jam our air and space detection systems - Any nation certainly could use a system or device to penetrate enemy defenses. (11)

4. SOME UFO's ARE SECRET EARTH PROJECTS: The above referenced U.S. Air Force reentry vehicle and an often publicized Canadian "saucer" project (9) leave little doubt as to the validity of this hypothesis. Undoubtedly, all UFO's should be carefully scrutinized to ferret-out such enemy (or "friendly") projects. Otherwise a nation faces the very strong

next page

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(10) Flying Phenomena, Sovietskaya Latviya, No. 287, 10 December 1967, p 3, Col 1-3, by R. Vitolniyek (Director of the Station for the Radio Observation of the Ionosphere and Artificial Earth Satellites).

(11) ibid., Project Grudge.

UFO's and the Colorado Project, Encyclopedia Brittanica Book of the Year 1968, p 123.

DRAFT

possibility of being intimidated by a new secret "doomsday" weapon.

5. SOME UFO's ARE PILOTED BY EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCES: According to s
EMINENT scientists closely associated with the study of this phenomenon, this hypothesis cannot be disregarded.12 (The well documented sightings over Wash-DC. in 1952 strongly support this view).
This hypothesis has a number of far-reaching human and cultural implications:

a. If "they" discover you, it is an old but hardly invalid rule of thumb, "they" are your technological superiors. Human history has shown us time and again the tragic results of a confrontation between a technologically superior civilization and a technologically inferior people. The "inferior" is usually subject to physical conquest.

b. Often in the past, a technologically superior people are also possessors of a more virile or aggressive culture. In a confrontation between two peoples of significantly different cultural levels, those having the inferior or less virile culture, most often suffer a tragic loss of identity and are usually absorbed by the other people.

c. Some peoples who were technologically and/or culturally inferior to other nations have survived - have maintained their identity - have equalized the differences between them and their adversaries. The Japanese people have given us an excellent example of the methods required to achieve such a survival:

(1) full and honest acceptance of the nature of the inferiorities separating you from the advantages of the other peoples,

(2) complete national solidarity in all positions taken in dealing with the other culture,

(3) highly controlled and limited intercourse with the other side - doing only those actions advantageous to the foreigner which you are absolutely forced to do by circumstances,

(4) a correct but friendly attitude toward the other people,

12. Professor James E. Macdonald, Astronomer, Professor Allen J. Hynek, Astrophysi
Jacques Vallee, Astronomer; Seymon Hess, Astronomer; that some of these
objects are probably extra-terrestrial in origin is also supported by a 1958
report by Canadian Defence Scientific Investigators.
13 op cit. The report(!) Washington Merry-Go-Round.

DRAFT

(5) A national eagerness to learn everything possible about the other culture - its technological and cultural strengths and weaknesses. This often involves sending selected groups and individuals to the other's country to become one of his kind, or even to help him in his wars against other adversaries.

(6) Adopting as many of the advantages of the opposing people as you can, and doing it as fast as possible - while still protecting your own identity by molding each new knowledge increment into your own cultural cast.

6. COMMENT: Although this paper has hardly exhausted the possible hypotheses related to the UFO phenomena, those mentioned above are the principal ones presently put forward. All of them have serious survival implications. The final answer to this mystery will probably include more than one of the above hypotheses.

Up until this time, the leisurely scientific approach has too often taken precedence in dealing with UFO questions. If you are walking along a forest path and someone yells, "rattler" your reaction would be immediate and defensive. You would not take time to speculate before you act. You would have to treat the alarm as if it were a real and immediate threat to your survival. Investigation would become an intensive emergency action to isolate the threat and to determine it's precise nature - It would be geared to developing adequate defensive measures in a minimum amount of time.

It would seem a little more of this survival attitude is called for in dealing with the UFO problem.

(C)

Observations of chimpanzees while in a captive environment have shown that the animals tend to become confused and disoriented. Since they do not usually have adult chimps to teach them how to be good apes, they are not even sure of their behavior. Often their actions are patterned after human behavior and would have virtually no survival value in the wild. Lacking the challenge of environmental adaptation, the bodies of the animals atrophy and become subject to many diseases - mostly unknown in their wild counterparts. Reactions to stimulis usually become less responsive and suitable. Sex often becomes a year-long preoccupation instead of a seasonal madness.

Do the captivity characteristics of modern civilization cause a similar lessening of man's adaptive capability, of his health, of his ability to recognize reality, of his ability to survive?

Perhaps the UFO question might even make man undertake studies which could enable him to construct a society which is most conducive to developing a completely human being, healthy in all aspects of mind and body - and most important able to recognize and adapt to real environmental situations.

[redacted]

X 2307
2193

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

L99

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
24 November 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Details of the report that you made concerning the strange object that you saw in the sky earlier this month have been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation.

You might like to contact some of the civilian organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports they may have received. The details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) [redacted]
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

[redacted]

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
23 November 1992

Dear [redacted],

Details of the report that you made concerning the strange lights that you saw in the sky on 19 November have been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or lasers reflecting off clouds. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation.

You might like to contact some of the civilian organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports they may have received. The details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
[redacted]

Tel no. [redacted]

Contact International (UK)
[redacted]

Tel no. [redacted]

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

No reply necessary - if possible!

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
Telephone Section 40

SECRETARY OF STATE

ASH

Head of Sec(AS)

I attach letter(s) which the Secretary of State has received from members of the public, and which ~~have~~/have not been acknowledged by this office.

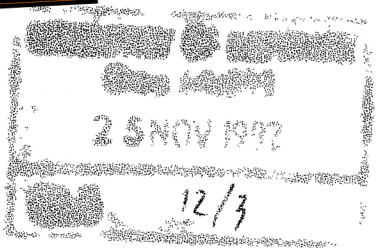
I should be grateful if you would arrange for the appropriate action to be taken, including a reply as necessary. Since the Secretary of State attaches importance to such letters addressed to him being answered promptly, any reply should be sent within two weeks of the date of this minute. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale.

Section 40

24/11

For APS/Secretary of State

Section 40



Recycled Paper

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted] 19.11.92

Dear Mr Riffkind

I am sacking you and your Permanent Secretary for covering up the news the news that an U,F,O, crase-landed near Sellafields and was discovered by the Sunday Sport.

You will be reinstated in Shirley Williams Govt, She is Pitt and she takes over from John Major - Henry vth who will remain leader of the conservative party and who will be a reduced syze cabinet and is going vto govern Russia with Boris Yeltsin, He stands a good chance of becoming Prime Minister of the World.

The Permanent Secretary one or more of the highest paid in defence which he must have been obtained and to his credit he turned down, The upper echelons of the civil service and the defence are granted the pay rises which the committee recommended and for the lower paid civil service and defence industries 100% pay increase. Money will be aboloshed over the weekend and all are to become Knights, Knights of the garter, U,M, Cardinals and Dukes, I have spoken to the queen and she quite agrees.

Uncle Frank was Sir Christopher Wren, Has constructed - he is an engineer and rose to become director of the ministry of Wors - that bridge inside St James Pk, His tel phone is Section 40 [redacted] Section 40 [redacted] Ring him You will send as many men as youi can to Israel by Monday and spread the word among the other countries that they all descend on Jerulamem to assist Uncle Frank in the theatre conetruction, I have roughed a sketch for it and Carlton has have provided a better sketch in colours, No doubt Uncle Frank, Prince Charles and Section 40 [redacted] have done an architect's sketch.

Let them bring with them tents sufficient to house the entire population of the U,K _ not anywhere else, The countries can provide their own tents,I shall dwelt, as Henry Vth slept, in a tent myself for at-least the first and the second nights before the hotels are in construction.

Best Wishes,

Section 40 [redacted]

LETTERS

Very occasionally the *NSS* mailbag contains a letter so utterly riveting that all other work must wait while its contents are digested.

Rafe Walley, of London NW6, is seeking my support for his campaign against his compulsory retirement from the civil service back in 1972 on the grounds of mental illness. Mad (to use his choice of word) he may be, but he writes a darned fine letter.

He starts with the assertion: "I am, or was, Judas Iscariot, and Adam (which is a laugh because I thought he was a myth)." Walley explains that he used to think he was Jesus Christ: "Then I struck lucky, I was Judas and betraying him was the only thing to do." Jesus, it turns out, is Sibyl Gottlieb, wife of Walley's former boss at the Ministry of Power, Bernard Gottlieb; she is also Satan, Walley informs me.

Bernard Gottlieb, meanwhile, used to be Pontius Pilate. Walley writes: "I think—although I can't prove this—he also was Leonardo da Vinci and Tolstoy."

There is more. "A civil service sub committee includes the three senior disciples—Peter, John and James. Peter was apparently an undersecretary at the Treasury until recently (he was also [illegible]) while John is still an undersecretary at the Department of the Environment. Eve, in case you were wondering, is identified as Rosemary STEVENson Bishop, a research officer at the Foreign Office; RoseMARY (geddit?) is also Mary Magdalene. "I think she was married to Jesus Christ [that's Sibyl Gottliebland they had an open marriage," says Walley. "I think I was invited to sleep with her too."

Other details are provided about the current incarnations of Socrates and Xanthippe, Joseph and Mary, and the archangels Gabriel and Michael, all of whom appear to be working in the British civil service in one capacity or another. Walley provides me with telephone numbers for them all.

I mention this because, of all the various conspiracy theories to have landed on my desk in the past year, this is one of the least implausible. At least it beats my regular Czech correspondent who insists—with cuttings from his local tabloids to show that he's not alone in this view—that the collapse of communism in eastern Europe was actually a plot to enable communist party leaders to transfer state property into their own private hands.

Steve Platt

...rning a blind eye

...nally I have the highest ...gard possible for your ...ellent magazine.

...During the Gulf crisis, you ...re one of the few publications ...d compared Iraq's invasion of ...wait to Indonesia's invasion of ...st Timor in 1975, and drew ...ention to the double standards ...he west.

...d when printing an interview ...h Nelson Mandela, where he ...s for sanctions on South ...a to stay ("Sanctions must ...", 27 September), it would ...m to me an almost ...orgivable omission not to ...e asked Mr Mandela why, ...st a year ago in Australia, he ... reported to have said that ...al di... ...nination against ... an internal matter

...ly unforgivable ... Mr Mandela ...id a visit to a ...sident ...ian dictator, who butchered up to a million suspected communists in 1965 before taking power, and who sent in his troops in 1975 to invade East Timor, a former Portuguese colony in the South Pacific, which claimed the lives of 200,000 natives (almost a third of the former population). Mr Mandela accepted a US$10 million cheque from Suharto for the ANC, while omitting to make representation on behalf of his victims. When will the anti-apartheid movement stop turning a blind eye on racism beyond the borders of South Africa?

Hubert Gieschen
Wildeshausen
Germany

Dismay and alarm

Radhakrishnan Nayar's perception ("Eastern sunrise", 11 October) that the "Soviets' alignment with the western camp ... bids fair to do far more for many third world nations' independence than was ever done by ... an innately decrepit Soviet Union" is highly questionable, since he is also very upbeat about a new Sino Japanese condominium being the principal support of his projected Asia-Pacific order.

Neither Japan nor China has any less of an imperialist pedigree than the west. Indeed, their individual records have often been worse, as those who recall the workings of Tokyo's pre war Co Prosperity Sphere in the Far East will readily testify, and as Tibetans today relate their experience as a subject people under Beijing's colonial rule. Furthermore, Cuba, Vietnam and India, despite their contrasting political and social systems, are three countries whose independence and security were greatly strengthened by Soviet assistance.

A Sino Japanese Co Prosperity Sphere now would be a totalitarian abomination, garnished with the hard capitalism of continuing stock-market scandals and politically contrived faction based single-party government. Such a prospect must fill socialists and liberals alike, in Asia and elsewhere, with dismay and alarm.

Preman Addy
London W9

Wave of nostalgia

Brunhild de la Motte's article ("Come back, East Germany, all is forgiven", 4 October) is a fascinating example of the current wave of nostalgia for the former GDR that is sweeping through intellectual circles in Germany. It is a wave characterised, on the one hand, by a reluctance to admit that the GDR was a political and moral disaster area, and, on the other, by an eagerness to draw crude and emotive comparisons between the policies of the Federal German government and those of the Nazis. Both characteristics are abundantly displayed by Ms de la Motte.

Although she concedes that the GDR was a "botched and unhealthy" attempt to build an alternative postwar society, she nevertheless trumpets the social and cultural achievements of that state: its "cheap nursery places" and its "enviable spread of theatres". Can these achievements blind us to the fact that the GDR was a gerontocratic, Stalinist dictatorship, which showed contempt for human rights, and which was ultimately rejected by the people it claimed to serve?

And questionable though many of the policies of Chancellor Kohl's government have been, they do not amount to the kind of re enactment or continuation of the Nazi policies suggested by Ms de la Motte's breathtaking and calculated immendoes. Emotive jibes such as "the new order", or "unification, seen from almost any angle of daily life, is more like an Anschluss", may satisfy certain prejudices about the nature of German government and society. They do not contribute to sensible and informed debate about what is actually happening in the former GDR.

Nicholas Martin
Jesus College
Oxford

Not fair play

I read with disbelief the advertisement that appeared on page 31 in the 27 September issue of *NSS*.

My name appeared, along with a number of others, in an advertisement purporting to have the support of the supposed signatories against the current leadership and aims of the Labour Party.

I am totally opposed to the setting up of an alternative to the Labour Party. I wondered how my name could be in an advertisement I had not agreed with nor had even been asked about. The only explanation I can come up with is that, at the 1991 Burston Rally, some supporters of the Socialist Workers Party were disrupting this event by shouting and using a megaphone. As a senior steward, I was asked to intervene. During the discussion, they asked me if I had supported witchhunts, to which I replied: no. They then asked me to sign their [illegible] against witchhu[illegible] did. I can [illegible]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

£97

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
19 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for telephoning your report of a UFO sighting to this office earlier today. In fact, although we receive and co-ordinate a number of UFO reports, the role of the Ministry of Defence in this subject is very limited.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. Although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation.

I understand that you asked for details of some of the civilian organisations in this country that actually investigate UFO sightings; the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

E96

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
19 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Details of the report you made earlier this month concerning the strange green glow that you saw in the sky have been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or lasers reflecting off clouds. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E95

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
19 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 17 November in which you asked about UFO reports held by the Ministry of Defence.

No UFO reports that we are aware of are judged to have presented a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom.

As you will know, some UFO books contain accounts of alleged incidents that their authors believe did present a threat. From time to time people send us photocopied extracts of such books, and ask for our views. Whilst we do have extracts from such books as "Above Top Secret" by Timothy Good, we have no other literature.

Given your interest in this subject, you may wish to know that one of the programmes in Channel 4's current "Equinox" series will be devoted to NASA's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) project. I believe that the programme is to be shown at some stage during December.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

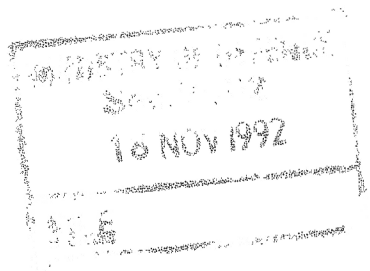
Recycled Paper

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence (Main Building)
White Hall
London
SW1A 2HB

17 November 1992

Your Ref: D/SEC (AS) 12/3



Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter dated 14 October 1992, and the enclosed correspondence dated 7 April 1987.

How can I obtain Ministry of Defence reports of UFO incidents that have presented a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom?

Could you also point to reference you may have on file from UFO literature within the public domain that may come into this category.

Respectfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E74

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
18 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange object that you and your daughter witnessed yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or airships illuminated from the inside. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

bufora

British UFO Research Association

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A
Room Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
f.a.o. Section 40

Tel. Section 40

Date: 12th November 1992

Dear Section 40

Just a note to enclose a copy of our rather belatedly published UFO Times as promised.

The training day that we discussed has not yet been re-scheduled, and will probably now not come around until the New Year but I will keep you informed of this in due course.

On a personal front things have been very busy and I have been rather 'hands off' from BUFORA for a while but I shall be getting back to that subject shortly and will no doubt be in touch with you again then.

I hope you are keeping well and look forward to speaking to you soon.

Very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E92

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 12 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 10 November, in which you asked about the Government's view on UFOs, and the position of the Ministry of Defence. In fact, I have already been contacted by one of your associates. I explained that I would not be able to conduct an interview, but sent a letter setting out our policy. I explained that this could be used to illustrate our policy and views. The following paragraphs - which I have already included in a letter to your colleague - set out this information.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do - and this has not been the case so far - we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Given this limited involvement with the subject, the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying UFO reports, nor are there any staff employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive, which are usually limited to very brief details of what was seen, are passed to staff in departments concerned with the air defence of the United Kingdom, who examine them as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the stories that are sometimes told, there is no question of our

Recycled Paper

attempting to cover up any incidents or keep any information about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports the existence of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth. Again, we are open-minded about the possibilities.

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although a small number of files survived, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office. The files we hold in this office go back to about 1985, so we are able to answer specific queries that people have about particular sightings which have occurred in recent years, and can let them know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. Most of the reports that we have are relatively unexciting, and refer to little more than a vague shape or light in the sky.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
1979 - 550
1980 - 350
1981 - 600
1982 - 250
1983 - 390
1984 - 214
1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received just over 100 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report. Many reports this year have been caused by lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds; such equipment is used increasingly in advertising and entertainment, especially at outdoor music festivals.

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with the production of your video.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Date 10.11.92

Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Sir,

I am currently in my third year of a media degree at North Cheshire College (afiliated to Manchester University). As a part of my course work I have to produce a 15-20 minutes long video. The subject matter of the programme, as decided by myself and four associates, is the UFO phenomenon.

Subsequently, I recently contacted Flight Lieutenant Section 40 [redacted] at RAF Sealand. He informed me that the RAF were unable to help with any information. But he kindle passed on your address in the hopes that you could help me with this project.

At present our production is still in its early stages. However, we have to date already conducted a interview with Section 40. He is a writer who has covered a variety of subjects in the area of unexplained phenomenon. Section 40 has co-written a number of books with Section 40, and both are highly respected for their work.

Our purpose in contacting you is to find out if there is a official government view, or opinion on the matter of UFO's. Equally, does the MOD recieve reports of UFO sightings, and if so how are such reports dealt with.

Furthermore, I would like to assure you that we do not wish to produce a video that makes outlandish and unfounded claims.

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

Yours Sincerely

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 10 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

When we spoke earlier today I promised to send you a letter setting out the position of the Ministry of Defence with regard to UFOs. With regard to your request for an interview, I regret that this will not be possible. You are, however, free to draw upon this letter in representing our policy and views.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do - and this has not been the case so far - we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Given this limited involvement with the subject, the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying UFO reports, nor are there any staff employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive, which are usually limited to very brief details of what was seen, are passed to staff in departments concerned with the air defence of the United Kingdom, who examine them as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the stories that are sometimes told, there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incidents or keep any information about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports

Recycled Paper

the existence of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth. Again, we are open-minded about the possibilities.

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although a small number of files survived, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office. The files we hold in this office go back to about 1985, so we are able to answer specific queries that people have about particular sightings which have occurred in recent years, and can let them know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. Most of the reports that we have are relatively unexciting, and refer to little more than a vague shape or light in the sky.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
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1980 - 350
1981 - 600
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1983 - 390
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1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received just over 100 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report. Many reports this year have been caused by lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds; such equipment is used increasingly in advertising and entertainment, especially at outdoor music festivals.

I hope this is helpful, and I should like to wish you the best of luck with your project. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

tyo

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
10 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 6 November in which you asked about a UFO sighting that occurred on 7 January 1966.

Although you mentioned that a report of this incident is held by the Ministry of Defence, I am afraid that it is almost certain that we no longer have it, as prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed. I can only suggest that you try the other UFO groups, to see if they can help.

Although we are always happy to provide assistance to researchers when we can, the files we hold in this office only go back to 1985. The assistance that we can provide will therefore only relate to comparatively recent cases.

I wish you luck with your research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]
Dept:Airstaff 2A
Ministry of Defence
Main building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Date:6/11/92

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing to you as i am wondering if you could help in connection with a ufo case which happened some time ago.

As you was most helpful the last time i wrote to you,i am hopeing that you can help me again.The case was reported from the district of wilmslow,cheshire,the nearest town being the town of ALDERLEY EDGE.The date of the case was the 7/1/66 and was reported by the local police as the main witness was one of there officers,an officer by the name of Section 40 [redacted]

I am writing to you as i know that the m.o.d.does have the report on this case as the officer involved was interviewed by a member of airforce intelligence.If you are unable to trace this case i would be greatful if you could tell me of any other department within the m.o.d.that could help me to trace the case report,as the case did happen within the area that i cover and i find it an interesting case.

I hope that you can help me,and i would like to take this opportunity to thank you for any help that you may beable to give.

yours
sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

E89

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference

D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date

9 November 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Thank you for your letter dated 6 November in which you asked about a UFO sighting that occurred on 19 September 1992.

I have checked through our files, but can confirm that we did not receive any reports that might tie in with the case you are investigating, either in date, location or description of object.

No obvious explanation for what was seen springs to mind; while we believe that explanations could be found for most UFO sightings, we accept that some cannot readily be explained, and we have an open mind on these.

I would be happy to run a similar check for any other cases that you investigate, and I hope this is of some use.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

Section 40

Dear Section 40

6 November 1992

SUSSEX/HAMPSHIRE UFOs

Thank you for your very useful letter (Ref D/Sec(AS)12/3 of 3 November). I will follow up the leads you have kindly provided.

You may be able to help in the case of the following specific example of a very unusual UFO observed recently:

> Two reliable witnesses living near Midhurst both observed what may be referred to as a "large upright phosphorescent emerald green cylinder (or silo)", This was travelling in a straight line northwards at a speed of 40/50 m.p.h. at a height of about 100 ft and was seen at a range of roughly 200 yds running parallel to the A286. This was seen for up to 1 minute until it passed out of sight at 6.30 pm on Saturday 19 September 1992.

In making a local appeal for other witnesses, a similar UFO was seen 10 years and 20 years previously!

I would be interested to learn whether your official records indicate anything of this nature in this area (or elsewhere, perhaps on a different occasion).

Incidentally, I am an ex-MoD scientist, having worked at SRDE, RAE, London and ASWE/ARE over the past 40 years.

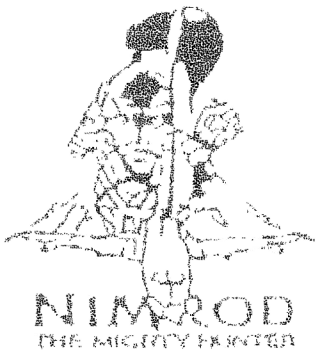
Thanking you, in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

ROYAL AIR FORCE
KINLOSS
FORRES
MORAYSHIRE
SCOTLAND
IV36 0UH

TEL BT [redacted] Section 40
FAX Nos
BT
GPTN [redacted] Section 40



NIMROD
THE MIGHTY HUNTER

FACSIMILE MESSAGE COVER NOTE

FROM: OC PLANS SQN

DEPT: —

CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED UNCLASSIFIED

No of PAGES (including COVER NOTE): 3

TEL No: [redacted] Section 40

TO: Sec (AS) 2 — [redacted] Section 40

FAX No: [redacted]

LETTER FM STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS.
NEW ARTICLES FOLLOW IN 1ST CLASS MAIL

DATE of TRANSMISSION:

TIME of TRANSMISSION: 1140 Z

Authority for transmission: Annex 21B Para 7

Authorizing Officer: [redacted] Section 40
(COVER NOTE TO [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

KIN/20/1/6/2/Air

Royal Air Force
Kinloss
Forres
Moray IV36 0RA

Forres [redacted]

MODUK Air - SEC(AS)2

9 Nov 92

UFOs - LIGHTNING INCIDENT - 8 SEP 70

Reference: Letter from [redacted] 5 Nov 92 (attached).

1. Further to our conversations about the renewed interest in the fatal accident involving a Lightning from RAF Binbrook on 8 Sep 70, I have today received the attached letter from a [redacted] - researcher (and probably entire staff of) Strange Phenomena Investigations. Enclosed with [redacted] letter are 5 articles, dated between 9 and 13 Oct '92, from the Evening Telegraph, which is apparently published by Grimsby and Scunthorpe Newspapers Ltd, 80 Cleethorpe Road, Grimsby [illegible]. The articles are the work of [redacted]

2. I am reluctant to "add fuel to the fire" over this issue, as the newspaper articles are somewhat sensationalised, and imply that the MOD has shrouded the whole issue in a security [illegible]. Similarly, the articles apparently quote official [illegible] of conversation between the Lightning pilot and the radar controller at Staxton Wold.

3. I think that the attached letter perhaps warrants a reply from you, although it is likely that any line will be interpreted by the researchers as further evidence of 'Minister doings'.

4. The newspaper articles are [illegible] fax they will follow in the 1st class mail.

5. Finally, I shall withhold my reply to [redacted] until I hear from you about this matter. Sorry to pass the buck, but this one could be messy if handled [illegible].

[redacted]

Sgn Ldr
for OC

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

Section 40
[redacted]

STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS

9th November 1992.

Tele: Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Section 40 [redacted],

Please find enclosed the articles regarding the UFO sighting and subsequent loss of a XS894 Lightning aircraft (and missing pilot

As I said on the phone, this case is currently being researched, not only in this country, but overseas as well, and I shall keep you up to date on any important breakthroughs. Please let me know how you got on with your own enquiries, any help from yourself would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]
Founder S.P.I.

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
6 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister, on the subject of extraterrestrial intelligences. I have been asked to reply.

Contrary to some of the stories that are sometimes told, the Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence that would support the existence of alien life, or suggest that alien spacecraft have ever visited the earth. We are, however, open-minded about the possibilities, and it will be interesting to await the results of the latest NASA Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) project. You may be interested to know that one of the programmes in Channel 4's "Equinox" series will be devoted to the SETI project, and should be shown at some stage during December.

With regard to the position of the US authorities, you may wish to write to the US Embassy in London. The address is as follows:

United States Embassy
24 Grosvenor Square
London
W1A 1AE

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Head of Sec (AS)

The attached letter which the Prime Minister has received has been acknowledged by 10 Downing Street and has been forwarded to this Department for official action.

a. No 10 have passed it to us for action as we see fit and you are asked to consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and to action accordingly.

or

b. No 10 have asked that a full reply be sent and you should know that the Prime Minister attaches importance to such replies being sent expeditiously.

2. Unless specifically asked to do so, there is no need for you to copy your replies to this office.

Section 40

for APS/Secretary of State

4/12/92

Section 40

R-20

o Mod

Section 40 [redacted]

Oct 18th 1992.

Dear Prime Minister,

I am concerned with the revelations constantly arising about the contact that the government has had, and is complying with, with what have been described as ETI. I am concerned that in conjunction with the US, there is a program which is dealing with potentially hostile "Greys".

The genetic cross breading with these alleged creatures, and the rise in abduction cases, and the implant technologies being described, are alarming at the very least.

As it would appear there is a policy to release such data, and the data relating to WW2 experiments relating to interdimensional travel, all be it via time, I imagine all such data is therefore not classified, as we know about it!

I am concerned that this is not properly being handled, and would ask that it is time to "come clean" on these issues.

It is MY analysis that a full and properly structured "Effected Response" is required in these matters. Failing this, I predict, that until such time, the lucky select few to occupy the hot seat in Downing Street will have a very rough time indeed, and our nation, and its relations, will take a very bad turn for the worse. As I conjectured this some time ago, and as it is coming true as predicted, I urge your office to take full and effective action to release and advise fully, the general public on these matters, with immediate effect.

As I say it is YOU who will incur penalty in this regard. Please I urge, if such matters of the so called "greys" and various meetings with officials at Benwaters are true, as eye witnesses are saying, in the US, then PLEASE do act, and tell us what IS going on.!

The time has passed that "officially" sanctioned Section 40 [redacted] releases are good enough. The public fireworks display at Nevada, and the genetic experiments on little childeren from Africa, in Dreamlands, both in the UK and US has gone long enough without a full statement.

The Cydonian Monuements, and the connection with our own English "Cydonian" replica make any disclaimers of No UFOs or Aliens , nonsense. "I dont know is NOT good enough." It is time for action on this NOW

Yours sincerely, Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted] IRISH UFO RESEARCH CENTRE.

E86

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
6 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange light that you witnessed yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E85

See also E 70, 76 + 80

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
5 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

I thought it would be useful if I wrote to confirm the points I made yesterday when we spoke about the crash of a Lightning F6 aircraft, on 8 September 1970.

Following a number of approaches from researchers, who had heard stories that this aircraft had crashed during an encounter with a UFO, I tracked down the Aircraft Accident Report (AAR) for this particular crash. This document is classified Restricted, as is the case for all AARs, and cannot therefore be released. From my reading of this document I can tell you that the Lightning was taking part in a Tactical Evaluation Exercise designed to practise the night shadowing and shepherding of low speed targets. For the purpose of the exercise, the targets involved were Shackleton aircraft. The Lightning crashed into the sea while attempting to intercept one of the Shackletons. There is no indication of any unidentified target having been encountered, and no reason to suggest that there is any sort of UFO incident in any way connected with this tragic crash.

As I mentioned, I am trying to track down further papers relating to this accident, in the hope that there will be an Unclassified Military Aircraft Accident Summary (MAAS), that I can release. Given the time that has elapsed since the accident, there are no guarantees that I will be successful. I will let you know what, if anything, I track down.

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with your own research.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

E84

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Wellington
New Zealand

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
4 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 October to the Secretary of State for Defence. I have been asked to reply.

While The Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate details of some UFO sightings, our role is very limited. I suggest, therefore, that you contact the civilian UFO organisations that are currently engaged in study of the UFO phenomenon. I am sure that they will be interested in what you say, and keen to exchange ideas and data. I suggest the following groups:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
Telephone [redacted]

SECRETARY OF STATE

AS2

Head of Sec(AS)

I attach letter(s) which the Secretary of State has received from members of the public, and which ~~have~~/have not been acknowledged by this office.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the appropriate action to be taken, including a reply as necessary. Since the Secretary of State attaches importance to such letters addressed to him being answered promptly, any reply should be sent within two weeks of the date of this minute. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale.

[redacted]

For APS/Secretary of State

3/11/92

[redacted]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Hd Sec (AS)
- - NOV 1992
FILE

Recycled Paper

The Rt. Hon. Malcolm Rifkind
Secretary of State for Defense
Ministry of Defense
Whitehall
LONDON

28 October 1992

Dear Sir,

Five months ago, around the 31 May 1992, I witnessed an explosion in deep space. I estimate the explosion to have been some Twenty thousand miles out with a duration of around Two seconds. It was unmistakable in it's appearance (i.e it was a long way away and it was huge).

The only public supporting evidence comes from the the television programme "Hard Copy". They aired a video which they claimed was taken from a NASA space shuttle. It showed what appeared to be a UFO move sideways to avoid what appeared to be a missile.

The "missile" was in fact another UFO doing what those things do best, and the UFO which moved sideways was nothing but cosmic dust by the time that episode of "Hard Copy" aired in New Zealand.

At the time the video was taken, and I am certain that it is no fake, there were five UFO's above the planet. They are machines, weapons used to escort a colonising mothership and to protect a colonised planet. All five UFO's had the same basic technology although Two of them were built by our ancestors and Three of them by another life form.

As long suspected their propulsion system is electro magnetic however their power source is their most fascinating feature. Blame it on Einstien but by applying spin in outer space where perpetual motion machines are no problem you achieve three major things... I.e "as matter approaches the speed of light it's relative mass increases towards infinity"...

(a)_ Your engine is a central chamber (gas core) which has an outer casing applying spin to the gas and which is itself spinning, tiny amounts of a metal ore are fed into the gas core which form a black hole. At some point in the process the black hole goes bang releasing all sorts of energy for collection especially electro magnetic.

(b)_ By applying the spin of the engine to their outer casing the UFO changes it's relative size (i.e becomes very small and very heavy, a black hole of it's own accord) and is capable of actually approaching the planet.

Benefit or drawback the event horizon of the UFO alters the faster it spins, and the closer to the danger zone it comes (before it goes bang as well). This means that it is travelling forwards in time. To us it means that these beasties can leave small trails in time.

(c)_ The engine is also used to start the spin of the pure fusion missiles. These space torpedoes are all warhead with a mechanism which tweaks the spin past critical on que from the UFO (for UFO read "weapon").

In addition to their fusion engine, propulsion system, and nukes they have a backup power supply, light based communications, and an application of microwave technology that enables direct communication with the human mind (similar in effect I imagine to telepathy).

Their computers are A.I optical and can encapsulate the egos of their manufacturers. Ours, as you would assume, are love itself with their own children.

If that is not sufficiently awesome I have yet to mention the light collection and transmission devices which are left in deep space on approaching a planet and which I coloquially refer to as "mirrors".

The communication medium is light but it is light travelling at some fraction of C2 not C. Once again I must refer to Einstien "Nothing travels faster than the speed of light except for light itself". I know for a fact that it is possible for these machines to see the future and the way this is accomplished is by light transmitted and retransmitted at C2.

The net effect being that as long as your mirror exists sometime in the future you see that future from the present and can also try and change it. When travelling between planets these weapons are used to prevent damage by meteor showers etc, their variable event horizon being particularly useful when it comes to predicting danger for the motherships.

We are not native to this planet. We arrived with our escorts of which we origionally had three some twenty eight thousand years ago, establishing colonies in the regions now known as the Saharah and central Australia.

Our mother ship relied more on genetic support than cryogenic suspension and as a consequence encapsulating egos by means of computer was a necessity as they may well have needed to be our parents. The mother ship's propulsion system included rocket motors and a centrally located cluster of jets to assist in the landing and takeoff of such a large craft.

Although also equipped with a fusion engine and electro magnetic propulsion the mothership could not apply spin to it's outer hull as can the weapons. It was much more a conventional space vehicle. It was located under one of our many domes, each of which covered several square kilometres. It is gone, nuked in a surprise attack on our colonies Twenty Thousand years ago.

The other colonising life form with technology similar to our own attacked through our nuclear curtain that turned space into a junkyard. However three of their weapons got through to nuke one of ours and our colonies. Tragic mistake for all concerned. We still had two weapons which although they could not use nukes within the vicinity of the planet, could hide in matter when threatened (the reverse was also true).

The majority of our population were wiped out in the attack. Very quick and painless for them. We still had sixteen thousand people on the planet, scattered in various groups, all dealing with the effects of fusion warfare the most alarming from the contemporary point of view being genetic mutations and the effect of isolating the gene pool. Life outside the domes was lived by people who chose it, and by exploration and mining teams.

Communication between our weapons and ourselves post the event was difficult due to the six way nature of the conversations. Rebuilding was a virtual impossibility. This had to do with the nature of colonising life forms in that they do not inhabit all of the planet but rather leave it as a native zoo and inhabit areas like the Saharah which was open grassland.

So between 18,000 B.C and the rise of contemporary civilisations around the world, our once olive skinned long lived ancestors managed to loose truth. Nearly 1000 generations adapting to life outside the domes on a high gravity planet they managed to form the races which collectively are known as man.

The retention of truth was not helped as long term history bears out by such events as the great flood and the rise of religions. For instance the true genesis of the "Popoh Vuh" of the Mayan culture was obliterated by the Spanish in the name of Christ.

The opposition were waiting for one of two events. If our weapons should have failed or run out of fuel before them, they could have brought their mothership in (although that plan must have had a diminishing chance of success over the last two centuries).

Alternatively they could look for a chance of escape remembering that once outside the perimiter of the planet our nuclear curtain would go up again. They had a strategic advantage in numbers and wait us out they did. Religion was a lie invented to hide the Truth but too flimsy to rely upon since we made it back into space.

It was definately not without substance however, the old question "How many angels could fit on a pin head?" being as close to the mark as it is possible to get.

Now due to the fact that we had almost come full circle by the time the opposition decided to chance an escape (vis.. the abovementioned explosion being our "farwell and don't come back thanks") it is not impossible to believe that we can reach out and recover

that lost knowledge. It is almost a necessity given our present situation.

You may be wondering how I know this having never eyeballed a UFO in my life? Advanced microwave I guess (see "communications" inventory above). Our quote on the matter "It was this or hang on for stalemate.".

The "opposition", until they began trying to use the "alien" concept to warp the Truth, were rather keen on the concept of God as an alternative to domed civilisations and modern warfare. Yet when a race has mastered inter stellar travel and the time continuim they are Gods. At least we were once.

The major outstanding points are...

- Our weapons desperately need refuelling. Only a handfull of countries are capable of reaching them and they are totally incapable of landing. If we should let them run out of fuel and drift off into space we are defenceless against invasion. I personally view a repeat performance as unlikely as our population has increased to the point where the planet would be far less attractive as a home to any colonising life form.

- There are property rights at stake as the engineering and stored knowledge of the Two weapons (which we still have at the Two Hundred and Fifty mile level) could revolutionise life for everybody. It is only logical that the whole world be told as soon as possible so that the U.N. can begin to act as Trustee.

But where is the proof? What sort of idiot would write a letter like this without proof. Well regardless of this I have written to one or two governments, MATA SA in France and NASA in the U.S.

I hope that one of the organistalons whom I've contacted will release enough factual information to allow the weapons to be delivered into the hands of the U.N. I know them to be quite capable of speaking for themselves once a line of communication is established (a refueling space walk perhaps?).

YOURS FAITHFULLY

Section 40 [redacted]

WELLINGTON
NEW ZEALAND

cc "The Times"
Letters to the Editor
Times Newspapers Ltd.

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E83

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
4 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 October to the Secretary of State for Defence, in which you asked about UFOs and extraterrestrial life. I have been asked to reply.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do - and this has not been the case so far - we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Given this limited involvement with the subject, the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying UFO reports, nor are there any staff employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive, which are usually limited to very brief details of what was seen, are passed to staff in departments concerned with the air defence of the United Kingdom, who examine them as part of their normal duties.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the stories that are sometimes told, there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incidents or keep any information about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports the existence of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth. Again, we are open-minded about the possibilities.

Recycled Paper

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although a small number of files survived, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office. The files we hold in this office go back to about 1985, so we are able to answer specific queries that people have about particular sightings which have occurred in recent years, and can let them know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. Most of the reports that we have are relatively unexciting, and refer to little more than a vague shape or light in the sky.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
1979 - 550
1980 - 350
1981 - 600
1982 - 250
1983 - 390
1984 - 214
1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received just over 100 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report. Many reports this year have been caused by lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds; such equipment is used increasingly in advertising and entertainment, especially at outdoor music festivals.

As I am sure you already know, most large bookshops and libraries have a fair selection of books on the subject of UFOs. "Above Top Secret" by Timothy Good, and "The UFO Encyclopaedia" by John Spencer are two books that contain a lot of information that you may find useful.

I would also suggest that you get in touch with some of the civilian organisations currently engaged in study of the UFO phenomenon, who will doubtless be keen to help, and put forward their own opinions. I also suspect that the more exotic "close encounter" UFO reports are generally made to such groups, rather than to us; we get very few such reports. I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association

Section 40 [redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I do not know if you intend to cover crop circles in your dissertation. As you will know, some people believe that there is a connection between UFOs and crop circles. The MOD is not involved in any research or investigation into the crop circle phenomenon, but if you are interested in this subject, then you may wish to contact the following organisation:

Centre for Crop Circle Studies
Section 40

I hope this is helpful, and I should like to wish you the best of luck with your dissertation. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
Telephone Section 40

SECRETARY OF STATE

AS2.

Head of Sec(AS)

I attach letter(s) which the Secretary of State has received from members of the public, and which ~~have~~/have not been acknowledged by this office.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the appropriate action to be taken, including a reply as necessary. Since the Secretary of State attaches importance to such letters addressed to him being answered promptly, any reply should be sent within two weeks of the date of this minute. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale.

Section 40

For APS/Secretary of State

30/10/92

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40 [redacted]

Rt Hon Thomas King MP
Ministry Of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

26th October 1992

Dear Sir

I am currently proceeding with a BA Honours degree in Information and Library Studies. As part of the final year I am expected to write a dissertation. I have chosen "the information controversy surrounding UFOs."

Please could you provide me with the Government and the Ministry of Defence's viewpoint on the existence of UFO's and extra-terrestrials. I would very much appreciate any help you can give me, as no doubt it would be invaluable.

I thank you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
4 November 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange object that you witnessed yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or an airship at high altitude, with only the navigation lights visible. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
3 November 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Thank you for your letter dated 25 October, in which you asked to be put in touch with those departments that record and investigate UFOs. This section is the sole point of contact on this subject at official level.

We do not release details of UFO sightings reported to us "en bloc", but if you let me have the dates and locations of the specific sightings you are investigating, I can let you have a copy of any report we have received that might tie in with these sightings. In line with our usual policy, we would delete details of the witness's name and address.

I do not know if you are in touch with any of the national UFO societies, but if you are not, it might be worth your while making contact with them to exchange ideas and data. I suggest the following groups:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with your research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Sec (as) 2

UFO Investigation Department
The Air Ministry
LONDON

Section 40

Dear Sirs,

25 October 1992

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS OVER THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND

Following some unusual UFO incidents in this area (Sussex and Hampshire) recently, I was advised by the local MH Coastguard Office to write to you on this subject.

I should be very grateful if you could refer me to your appropriate representative dealing with the recording and investigation of such sightings - and perhaps names/addresses of other (Navy/Army/Civil) organisations dealing with the examination of these accounts.

I have been receiving personal accounts of such events for several years now, but with the recent incidence of some very unusual sightings in this area, I have decided to take up the subject more seriously.

Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40

Project Urquhart
Principal Scientific Advisor

Section 40

Section 40

Tel. No Section 40

E80

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

See also E76 + E70, E85

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
2 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your letter dated 20 October to RAF West Drayton, in which you asked about the crash of an RAF Lightning on 8 September 1970, has been passed to this office.

I have done some research into the loss of the aircraft, and have discovered that it was taking part in a Tactical Evaluation Exercise designed to practise the night shadowing and shepherding of low speed targets. For the purpose of the exercise, the targets involved were Shackleton aircraft. The Lightning crashed into the sea while attempting to intercept one of the Shackletons. There is no indication of any "unidentified aircraft" having been encountered, and no reason to suggest that there is any sort of UFO incident in any way connected with this tragic crash.

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with your research.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

ROYAL AIR FORCE WEST DRAYTON

MIDDLESEX

UB7 9AU

G.P.T.N. Section 40 [redacted]

FACSIMILE LEADSHEET

TO Sec (AS) 2

FROM Sqn Ldr Section 40 [redacted]

SUBJECT 1970 Lightning Loss (UFO)

DATE OF DOCUMENT 20/10/92

No. of PAGES (INC COVER) 1/1

AUTHORISING OFFICER Section 40 [redacted]

FAX No.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES AS INDICATED

PLEASE TELEPHONE Section 40 [redacted] :- AIS (MIL)

INDEPENDENT UFO NETWORK

Section 40

Tele: Section 40

Date: 20.10.92.

Dear Sir,

I wonder could you help me with some information. I am attempting to research an incident that took place on September 8, 1970.

The incident in question involved an RAF Lightning jet from RAF Binbrook piloted by Captain William Schafner. The aircraft, XS894, a Lightning F6, was formant 64 on the evening in question.

On the evening in question (October 8, 1970) unfortunately the aircraft piloted by Captain Schafer crashed after being 'ordered' to intercept an 'unidentified aircraft' picked up on radar by Saxa Vord amongst others. A number of aircraft were also involved as well as other defence establishments.

I would therefore like to request any and all data that you have on this particular incident.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E79

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
2 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange object that you and your wife witnessed yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or airships seen from unusual angles, or weather balloons. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
2 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange red lights that you and your family witnessed on 31 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E11

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
2 November 1992

Dear Section 40,

When we spoke last Friday I promised to let you have a letter setting out the Ministry of Defence's policy and views on UFOs, together with some other related information that you may find useful. Hopefully your daughter will be able to draw upon the information in this letter when writing her essay.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the accusations that are sometimes made, there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incidents or keep any information about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports the existence of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth.

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from

Recycled Paper

public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although a small number of files survived, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office. In fact, most of the reports that we get are relatively unexciting, and refer to little more than a vague light or shape in the sky.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
1979 - 550
1980 - 350
1981 - 600
1982 - 250
1983 - 390
1984 - 214
1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received around 100 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report.

As we discussed, we do not break down UFO reports by occupation of witnesses, so there is little that I can offer on the specific question of UFOs seen by the military or by civil pilots. I would probably have noticed a reference to a UFO having been seen by a military witness, but do not recall many cases. Perhaps the most famous such case in the UK concerns the alleged UFO sighting at Rendlesham Forest in December 1980. The only information we have on this is the report by Lt Col Charles Halt of the United States Air Force. We are satisfied that the events descibed are of no defence significance. I have attached a copy of Lt Col Halt's report, which you may find interesting. You will probably find mention of this in most UFO books. Such books are probably your best source of information on cases involving military personnel or civil pilots, as they often highlight such cases; "Above Top Secret" by Timothy Good, and "UFO Encyclopaedia" by John Spencer are two books that may be useful; any large bookshop or library should have copies of these books, and others on the subject.

I hope this is helpful, and I should like to wish your daughter the best of luck with her essay. If you or she have any further questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

See also E70 + E80 & E85.

Section 40

Dear Section 40

206

07 10,92.

On several occasions, AHB 3 and AHB 5 have been very helpfull to me. You will probably recall from my file, that I am a former PR I/O MoD (RAF.) I still take a profound interest in the RAF and it's reserves in which I served for many years.

Currently, I am seeking information which has confused me for many years. Now that East-West political relations have "eased" according to general information, perhaps you could give me lots of informati on the Lightning Interceptor Fighter No. XS894, which took off from RAF Binbrook during 1970? It was piloted by an American Captain by the name of Schaftner or Shafner. He was on exchange from the USAF; or perhaps secondment. I would like as much as is known/permissible, as I would like to write a bit about it sometime. Actually, I vaguely recall the occurance but had nothing to say about it. The month was September. Perhaps you could also give me a USAF address in that I may obtain another view of it?

The same accident that was the subject of Section 40 story at E70. AHB will reply to this letter, using my response to Section 40 as a basis for their reply.

I am also seeking information on which RAF station trained air gunners during the second year of the Korean War (Emergency) Maybe it was the one near Blackpool which was also a Driver's School; Weeton?

Section 40 AHB

Section 40

Finally. Could you please tell me which RAF squadron went to Korea and Japan; also what type of Bombers/Fighters it had. That was its home base, also the Japanese and Korean bases? I am also looking for some aircrew names, mainly pilots; gunners and Wireless Operators.

We last corresponded during Feb, 1990., Ref: D/AHB(RAF)8/1. I am now 63 years of age, but I wish I was young enough to enlist with AHB. Such History would put me in my natural element. One day, I may want to know about the early WW1 signals system, and the radio sets which were used, but that may come later as "enough is enough" for both of us. I am willing to pay for the research of information. Thank you for your past help.

I am, Yours sincerely.

Section 40

Section 40

AHB3. RAF.

Section 40

See Acts

IFS

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

~~Unclassified~~ / Restricted

From: (Name) ~~IF~~ FS [redacted]

(Appt) .....

Inspectorate of Flight Safety (RAF)
Ministry of Defence
Room.....
Adastral House
Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8RU

Return Fax Tel: [redacted] (GPTN [redacted]

To: SEC AS [redacted]

DATABASE ENTRY

.....

Tel: .....

Date: ..... No. of Sheets 1+ 2

IFS Contact Tel: [redacted] (GPTN [redacted])

Copies to: .....

Our File Reference: Fax [redacted]

Q.: @LIGHTNING+(CAT4,CAT5)?
SUBQ.:REPQ XS894?
SORTED BY: -

DATES: 70

1 hits

IDENTIFICATION

ACCIDENT CAT5
08SEP70 TIME: 2142A
LIGHTNING F6
5 SQN
CL:AIRCREW FACTOR

ACC. NO.: 70:0034
USN: BIN\5\\70
TAIL NO.: XS894
BINBROOK
SAFETY EMERGENCY EQUIP

SUMMARY

3412N 0032W. Crew fatality. During exercise. TACEVAL. During an interception. Low flying. At night. 17000 AMSL. Ejection seat. Parts detached. Distraction. Aircraft flew into ground. Ejection abandonment.

THE SQUADRON COMMANDER CLEARED THE PILOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TACEVAL, THEREFORE, IN THE BELIEF THAT HE WOULD NOT BE INVOLVED IN A SHADOWING OR SHEPHERDING MISSION, UNKNOWN TO THE STATION AND SQUADRON, THE TACEVAL TEAM HAD JUST CHANGED THE EXERCISE SCENARIO FROM NORMAL INTERCEPTIONS TO INTERCEPTION, OR SHADOWING OR SHEPHERDING ON SLOW SPEED LOW FLYING TARGETS. THE TARGETS WERE SHACKLETON A\C FLYING AT 160 KNOTS, AND AT THE MINIMUM AUTHORISED HEIGHT OF 1500 FEET AS SPECIFIED IN GROUP ORDERS. THE PILOT TOOK OFF AND WAS STILL UNAWARE OF THE TYPE OR HEIGHT OF HIS TARGET. HE WAS TOLD TO ACCELERATE TOWARDS THE TARGET WHICH WAS 28 NMS AWAY. AT 2039Z, THE PILOT ACKNOWLEDGED INSTRUCTIONS. HE WAS GIVEN VARIOUS ALTERATIONS TO HEADING UNTIL HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH LIGHTS BUT WOULD HAVE TO MANOEUVRE TO SLOW DOWN. HIS VOICE SOUNDED STRAINED AS THOUGH HE WAS AFFECTED BY 'G'. AT 2041Z THE A\C WAS SEEN BY THE OTHER LIGHTNING PILOT, WHO HAD JUST BROKEN AWAY FROM THE TARGET, TO BE ABOUT 2,000 YARDS ASTERN AND 500 TO 1,000 FEET ABOVE THE SHACKLETON, IN A PORT TURN. THE SHACKLETON CREW THEN SAW THE A\C, APPARENTLY VERY LOW. WHEN AT 2042Z THE LIGHTNING PILOT FAILED TO ACKNOWLEDGE INSTRUCTIONS, HE INSTITUTED EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, HOWEVER, HE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN MAKING CONTACT WITH THE SHACKLETON BECAUSE HE DID NOT HAVE IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO 243.0 MHZ. AN IMMEDIATE AIR SEARCH BY THE TARGET SHACKLETON, AND SUBSEQUENT AIR\SEA SEARCH THE FOLLOWIN DAY, FAILED TO DETECT ANY TRACE OF THE A\C OR PILOT. FROM CALCULATIONS PROVIDED BY THE BOI AND EXPERT SOURCES, A SEARCH BY A RN MINESWEEPER "LOCATED" THE WRECKAGE NEARLY 2 MONTHS LATER. THE A\C WAS IN A COMPLETE STATE EXCEPT THAT THE PORT WING HAD BROKEN OFF AND BUCKLED UNDER THE FUSELAGE, AND SOME FUSELAGE PANELS WERE MISSING. THE COCKPIT CANOPY WAS ATTACHED BUT NOT CLOSED AND THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THE PILOT. EXAMINATION OF THE WRECKAGE SHOWED THAT THE A\C HAD STRUCK THE SEA AT A LOW SPEED, IN A TAIL-DOWN ATTITUDE WITH A MINIMAL RATE OF DESCENT. IT APPEARED TO HAVE PLANED ON THE SURFACE AND COME TO REST COMPARATIVELY SLOWLY. BOTH THROTTLES WERE IN THE REHEAT GATES, THERE WAS A NOSE-UP TRIM OF 6 DEG, U\C WAS UP, FLAPS DOWN AND AIRBRAKES OUT. THERE WAS NO SIGN OF FIRE OR EXPLOSION AND EXPERT EXAMINATION REVEALED NO INDICATION THAT THE A\C WAS OTHER THAN SERVICEABLE AT IMPACT. THE BOARD CONCLUDED THAT A COMBINATION OF A DIFFICULT TASK IN RUSHED CIRCUMSTANCES AND LACK OF TRAINING IN THE LOW SPEED VISIDENT AND SHEPHERDING TECHNIQUES, LED TO A SITUATION WHERE THE PILOT FAILED TO MONITOR THE HEIGHT OF HIS A\C WHILST SLOWING DOWN AND ACQUIRING HIS TARGET, AND THAT HE HAD INADVERTENTLY FLOWN HIS A\C INTO THE SEA. THE PILOT HAD ATTEMPTED TO RECOVER THE SITUATION BY SELECTING REHEAT, WHICH FAILED TO TAKE EFFECT, WITH THE A\C TAIL SKIMMING ON THE WATER.

Cause group.

Aircrew error.

Contributory factors.

G.... Q LIGHTNING+(CAT4,CAT5)?
SUBQ.:REPQ XS894?
SORTED BY:

DATES: 70

1 hits

IDENTIFICATION

ACCIDENT CAT5
08SEP70 TIME: 2142A
LIGHTNING F6
5 SQN
CL:AIRCREW FACTOR

ACC.NO.: 70:0054
USN: BIN\5\\70
TAIL NO.: XS894
BINBROOK
SAFETY EMERGENCY EQUIP

SUMMARY(CONTD)
Probably maint.
Lack of skill.
Inadequate orders or briefing.
Error of skill.

IFS

ACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Unclassified / Restricted

From: (Name) Section 40 [redacted]

(Appt) FSADMIN 1

Inspectorate of Flight Safety (RAF)
Ministry of Defence
Room Section 40 [redacted]
Adastral House
Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8RU

Return Fax Tel: Section 40 [redacted] (GPTN Section 40 [redacted]

To: Section 40 [redacted] - SGE As

AAR FOLLOWS - STILL HUNTING

MAAS.

Tel:

Date: '19/10 No. of Sheets 1+ 7

IFS Contact Tel: Section 40 [redacted] (GPTN 8281 Section 40 [redacted]

Copies to:

Our File Reference: Fax Section 40 [redacted]

Lightning F6 XS894
5 Squadron
8 September 1970

SIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTED

ROYAL AIR FORCE
AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT

Date:	8 September 1970
Aircraft:	Lightning Mk F6 XS 894
Crew:	One
Sortie:	Tactical Evaluation Exercise - Night Shadowing and Shepherding of Low Speed Targets
Casualties:	One killed
Aircraft Damage:	Category 5
Unit:	No 5 Squadron, RAF Binbrook

Circumstances

1. No 5 Squadron was participating in a Strike Command Tactical Evaluation (Taceval) exercise at RAF Binbrook. The pilot of the accident aircraft was a USAF exchange officer whose experience included two tours of duty on USAF F102 all weather fighter aircraft. He had accumulated 121 hours on Lightning aircraft, of which 18 were at night, and had obtained a Green Instrument Rating. He had been categorised as "limited combat ready" after 8 weeks on the Squadron. This was an unusually short period but the category was justified by his USAF experience as squadron pilot and OCU instructor, and by his results in simulator training and dual flying tactical and weapons checks on the Lightning. The limitation on his operational status was due to his need for further training in maximum effective use of the Lightning weapons system and because he had not yet met the requirement for full visident missions, he had completed only two of the specified three phases of preparation. In consequence at his stage of training at the time of the accident he would only have been cleared for shadowing and shepherding tasks with the target in full visual contact. The Squadron Commander cleared the pilot to participate in the Taceval, therefore, in the belief that he would not be involved in a shadowing or shepherding mission.

2. On the day of the accident the pilot was ordered to his aircraft at 1834Z hours, and, after waiting on readiness, was scrambled at 1947Z hours. He started taxying, however his scramble was cancelled and he was ordered back to dispersal. On return he ordered fuel only and no turnround servicing. According

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to standing instructions the engineer officer on duty ordered a full turnround. The turnround was delayed, and during this delay the pilot was warned that he would be scrambled as soon as he was ready. He asked the groundcrew to expedite the turnround, however, before it was completed he called for engine starting, failed to sign the servicing certificate and taxied out at 2025Z hours. As he entered the runway the metal turnround board and attached servicing certificate fell off the aircraft.

3. Unknown to the station and squadron, the Taceval team had just changed the exercise scenario from normal interceptions to interception, or shadowing or shepherding on slow speed low flying targets. The targets were Shackleton aircraft flying at 160 knots, and at the minimum authorised height of 1500 feet as specified in Group Orders. The minimum speed for Lightning aircraft for visident practices is 200 knots, which was not specified as an order, but was referred to in the Lightning squadron training syllabus. The syllabus made no reference to shadowing or shepherding techniques. Shadowing and shepherding are however included in the war task of Lightning squadrons and, thus, were theoretically subject to Taceval.

4. The pilot took off at 2030Z and was ordered to climb to FL 100; he was still unaware of the type or height of his target. He was handed over to the MRS and was given in a short space of time, the QNH, and height of target (1,500 ft), and a shadowing task with target speed of 160 knots. He was told to accelerate towards the target which was 28 nms away. At 2039Z, the pilot acknowledged instructions to accelerate to 0.95M to effect a rapid take over from another Lightning, this in a tone of surprise. He was given various alterations to heading until he announced that he was in contact with lights but would have to manoeuvre to slow down; his voice sounded strained as though he was affected by 'G'. At 2040Z the MRS broadcast that the Controller was being changed; at this time the Lightning was turning port at about 220 knots. At 2041Z the aircraft was seen by the other Lightning pilot, who had just broken away from the target, to be at about 2,000 yards astern and 500 to 1,000 feet above the Shackleton, in a port turn. The Shackleton crew then saw the aircraft, apparently very low. The MRS Chief Controller had appreciated that this was a difficult interception, and had monitored the latter stages very closely. When at 2042Z the Lightning pilot failed to acknowledge instructions, he instituted

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emergency procedures, however, he experienced difficulty in making contact with the Shackleton because he did not have immediate access to 243.0 Mhz. An immediate air search by the target Shackleton, and subsequent air/sea search the following day, failed to detect any trace of the aircraft or pilot.

Determination of Causes

5. From calculations provided by the Board of Inquiry and expert sources, a search by a RN minesweeper "located" the wreckage nearly 2 months later. The aircraft was in a complete state except that the port wing had broken off and buckled under the fuselage, and some fuselage panels were missing. The cockpit canopy was attached but not closed and there was no sign of the pilot. Examination of the wreckage showed that the aircraft had struck the sea at a low speed, in a tail-down attitude with a minimal rate of descent. It appeared to have planed on the surface and come to rest comparatively slowly. Both throttles were in the reheat gates, there was a nose-up trim of 6°, undercarriage was up, flaps down and airbrakes out. There was no sign of fire or explosion and expert examination revealed no indication that the aircraft was other than serviceable at impact.

6. The ejection seat lower handle had been pulled to the full extent allowed by the interrupter link on the main gun sear. The canopy gun sear had been withdrawn, but the canopy gun cartridge had received only a light percussion strike and had not fired. The canopy had been released by the normal operating lever, the harness QRB was undone, the PEC disconnected and the PSP lanyard had been released from the life preserver and was lying tangled in the cockpit.

7. The Board concluded that a combination of a difficult task in rushed circumstances and lack of training in the low speed visident and shepherding techniques, led to a situation where the pilot failed to monitor the height of his aircraft whilst slowing down and acquiring his target, and that he had inadvertently flown his aircraft into the sea. The pilot had attempted to recover the situation by selecting reheat, which failed to take effect, with the aircraft tail skimming on the water. He had then initiated an ejection which was unsuccessful because of the interruption of the sequence by the failure of the canopy to jettison. He then manually abandoned the aircraft but because he has not been found, he was presumed to have drowned during or after his escape.

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8. The light percussion strike on the canopy gun cartridge occurred because of negligent servicing, in that the firing unit was incorrectly seated because of damaged screw threads.

9. The Board made a number of recommendations relating to inconsistencies and omissions in orders, instructions and the training syllabus, concerning low speed visidents and the shadowing and shepherding techniques. They also made recommendations concerning the access of MRSs to emergency frequencies, and for remedial action concerning Lightning canopy ejection guns.

Remarks of the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief

10. The AOC-in-C stated that in common with so many accidents, this accident had no single root cause, and he agreed with the Board's conclusions. He said that the pilot made an error of judgment in allowing his aircraft to get into a position from which he was unable to recover. Because of mitigating circumstances, his error was excuseable.

11. The AOC-in-C's comments on the Board's recommendations are covered below.

Subsequent Action

12. The Board's recommendation concerning access to the emergency radio frequency by the MRS was not accepted by the AOC-in-C, who stated that MRSs already have the facility to select 243.0 Mhz although they do not normally monitor it. He considered that the allocation of a safety frequency for use during all peacetime exercises had more merit.

13. The hitherto undetected weakness in training for the identification, shadowing and shepherding of low altitude, low speed targets, have been rectified as follows:

a. No 11 (Fighter) Group Air Staff Orders now specify a minimum speed for visident targets, and minimum target speeds and heights for shadowing and shepherding operations by day and night.

b. New tactics have been devised and published in the Lightning Tactics Manual.

c. Shadowing and shepherding tasks have been included in the Annual Training Syllabus for Lightning Squadrons.

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d. Pilots of aircraft under GCI control must now read back altimeter settings before descending to low level.

e. A radio safety frequency is allocated for all exercises.

f. During all pertinent exercises, a target radio frequency plan will be available so that two way communication between the MRS and target aircraft can be established rapidly in any emergency situation.

14. Servicing procedures for the inspection, re-arming and servicing of canopy firing units have been amended.

15. All ejection seat firing units of a type similar to that which prevented ejection in this accident have been inspected for signs of damage.

16. The design of the canopy firing unit has been examined. No change will be made, however, the Design Authority has been made aware of the failure for consideration in future designs.

17. The deficiencies revealed by the change of controller at the MRS and the over-rapid attempt to effect the changeover of the intercepting aircraft, have been drawn to the attention of the MRS.

18. The effect of the false scramble and the interrupted turnround in producing conditions of stress, has been drawn to the attention of all 11 Group Stations.

19. The deficiencies in planning, and liaison with the station operations staff concerning the change of exercise scenario, have been investigated with the MRS and Taceval Team.

20. Negligence in the fitting of the canopy jettison firing unit could not be attributed to any specific person. The Corporal who was responsible for servicing the unit was found excusably negligent. No disciplinary action was taken against him because of the involvement of other personnel, the lack of clear servicing instructions and guidance on the acceptable degree of burring of the screw threads, the lack of evidence that he had caused the damage to the threads, and because he did not finally fit the unit to the jettison gun.

DFS(RAF) Cause Coding

21. Main Cause Group: Aircrew Error.

22. Codes:

690.6	Inadequate orders.
330.5	Servicing error.
470.3	Inexperience on aircraft type.
716.4	Rushed operation.
410.9	Distraction.
540	Error of skill (failed to monitor altitude during low level exercise at night) - MAIN
232.12	Ejection seat, miscellaneous (canopy firing unit)

Section 40 [redacted]

Air Commodore
Director of
Flight Safety (RAF)

Ministry of Defence
30th June 1972
See Distribution List

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
27 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange object that you and your family witnessed yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
27 October 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange object that you encountered last Saturday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Although we believe that explanations could be found for most UFO sightings, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your experience with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

[redacted]

Tel no. [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
26 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange sound that you heard in the early hours of 25 October, and the lights in the sky that you witnessed at the same time, has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

I am unable to offer an explanation for the sound that you heard, other than to suggest that if you live close to any pylons, or an electricity sub-station, then this could be the source of the noise. With regard to the lights, it is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your experience with other reports that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

E72

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
21 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 18 October concerning the UFO report that you are currently investigating under the reference Section 40048.

I have checked our files, and can confirm that we do not have any reports that tie in with this case.

Although I appreciate that the lights were seen for a short period, I would think that the most likely explanation would be that the lights were caused by searchlights reflecting off the clouds. This could be because the searchlights were a long way away, and only briefly pointed in such a direction to have been seen by the witnesses. It could also mean that the searchlight were merely being tested, as opposed to being used at some event.

Whether or not searchlights were responsible for this particular sighting, it does seem as if the use of lasers and searchlights is on the increase, especially at music festivals and other large outdoor events. We are aware of many UFO sightings which have almost certainly been caused by such equipment. If BUFORA is not already doing so, it may be useful to make contact with those companies that operate or lease such equipment on a regular basis.

I wish you luck with your investigations.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

CASE REPORT

(title)

Section 40 [redacted]

18-1Ø-92

Section 40 [redacted]
SECRETARIAT (AIR STAFF) 2a, ROOM Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London, SW1A-2HB.

Dear Sir,

I herewith enclose for your inspection a UFO report made by two men fishing at night in N. Milton Keynes.

Personally, I would have been inclined to suggest that the lights seen could have emanated from a 'disco-lights party' that went on into the early hours of the morning, but the transient nature of the lights would appear to render this explanation unlikely.

Perhaps, if the MOD received any reports at the time in question, you might wish to furnish me with a listing thereof.

I have a further two reports in the pipeline - both involving 'missing time' - the details of which I shall send you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

BUFORA

q

COPY: M.O.D.

UFO SIGHTING QUESTIONNAIRE (STANDARD)

A Fisherman's Tale

.....

CASE SUMMARY TO BE FILLED IN BY THE INVESTIGATOR ONLY:-

BUFORA REFERENCE NUMBER:

INVESTIGATOR REFERENCE NUMBER: Section 40 .048

INVESTIGATION COMPLETE: y/n/on-going: y

INVESTIGATOR(s): Section 40

CLASSIFICATION USING VALLEE SYSTEM (1990) [IF POSSIBLE]: MA1-301

LOCATION(S) USING O.S. GRID REFERENCE IF POSSIBLE: N. Milton Keynes

OBSERVATION DATE(S): 29-9-92

OBSERVATION TIMES [GMT/BST/LOCAL] USING 24-HOUR SYSTEM: 21.30 bst

EVALUATOR(s):

EVALUATION:

****

THIS SECTION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS TO BE FILLED IN BY THE WITNESS:-

SECTION A - BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:-

FULL NAME*: Section 40

*** EVEN IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PUBLICISED YOUR NAME THIS REPORT WILL BE TREATED IN CONFIDENCE BY BUFORA LTD.**

DATE OF BIRTH.: Section 40

ADDRESS : Section 40

Section 40

TELEPHONE NUMBER: Section 40

RECENT OCCUPATION: Recording engineer

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL OR ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS (IF ANY): Section 40

Section 40

SPECIAL INTERESTS/HOBBIES: Section 40 astronomy, photography, Section 40

The British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) is dedicated to the scientific study of the UFO phenomenon. All BUFORA investigators are bound by a strict code of practice which requires them to conduct all investigations in a professional manner and to respect the anonymity of the witnesses.

A copy of the Code of Practice can be obtained on request from BUFORA' office:-

BUFORA Section 40 [redacted]
Section 40 [redacted]

BUFORA Ltd. is also registered under the Data Protection Act - Registration Number: F0779204

::

SECTION B: WRITTEN ACCOUNT

PLEASE WRITE AN ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU (USE ADDITION SHEETS IF NECESSARY):

Section 40 [redacted] and I were night-fishing on the south bank of the R. Ouse at the above-location - we were sitting together and facing due north. Simultaneously, our attention was drawn to two patches of quite bright light which seemed to suddenly appear just above a fairly large tree on the opposite river bank. The patches of light were both about 4 x diameter of the full-moon, roughly circular and almost touching each other. Before we had time to comment to each other, the lights appeared to accelerate across the sky, still retaining their relative positions at enormous speed.

When the lights first appeared, they were approx. NNE of us, and when they disappeared, were approx. SE of us; We estimated their elevation as between 50 - 60°. From the time we first noticed the lights until they had disappeared took about 3 - 4 seconds, although just after the 'event', we were aware of a solitary aircraft passing overhead which we could see through a small break in the cloud. This was very high up, travelling slowly in a NW to SE direction, and because of its distance from us, was making relatively little noise.

What made the lights so strange was the apparent lack of any associated sound, and their incredible speed and acceleration.

The obvious explanation seemed to be that two spotlights were being swept across the clouds from either above or below the clouds; but the more we analysed what we had seen, the harder it became to make this explanation fit.

Both of us often night-fish a stretch of river near Buckingham where we often see F111 aircraft returning after dark to Upper Heyford base. As, at this point, they are only a few miles from base, they usually are using their headlights,

Initially, one sees a bright patch of light approaching in the cloud with little or no associated sound. The light shows up the details and formation within the clouds; eventually, the aircraft noise becomes quite extreme.

We both agreed that our initial impression of the lights we saw was the same as that of the F111s - much cloud detail being visible and the brightness being very similar. We were both about to comment to each other that F111s, or some other aircraft, were approaching when the extraordinary acceleration took place - the lack of any associated sound made us immediately re-appraise our judgement.

Lights being shone from the cloud could have accounted for the lack of noise and the acceleration, but due to the haziness of the atmosphere, any beam of light sufficiently powerful to produce such coherent patches of light on the clouds would have been easily visible. I'm certain that the detail we were seeing of the cloud's internal structure couldn't have been visible with an upward shining light.

The distinct impression was either of one source emitting two lights or two other sources with a light each shining down onto the clouds moving incredibly fast and making no noise.

Another possibility would seem to be a stationary , silent source above the clouds sweeping two beams of light across the clouds - a balloon perhaps? It would seem unlikely at that time of night and somewhat dangerous.

Another feature that would seem to be at odds with the 'swept beams' idea was that throughout the sighting the size and shape of the light patches remained the same while they traversed between 100 - 120° of sky.

For the solitary aircraft mentioned to be the source of the lights seems impossible due to its height and distance: it would have to have used incredibly powerful lights, almost akin to laser beams, to have produced the same effect.

I hope this report is of some interest to you - I have previously reported to you of an 'event' I saw near Cranfield in 1974. Despite spending hundreds of hours night-fishing and having spent many years pursuing my interest in astronomy, this is the first 'unknown' I've witnessed since then.

Section 40 and I are at odds on two points of our observation: 1) Section 40 thought the light patches were slightly elliptical, whereas I remain convinced that they were circular, 2) I thought the solitary aircraft was a jet - Section 40 Section 40 recalls it as being propellor-driven.

Although we couldn't be sure of the height of the cloud (it began to rain about 30 mins after the sighting, so it probably wasn't very high) we both felt sure that the distance the lights travelled in the time we saw them must have approached 2 - 3 miles at least; a possible speed of 3 600 mph.

and if the cloudbase is low, the effect can be quite eerie.

The relative position of the M.1. seems suspicious, but for the reasons already considered, any connection seems difficult to make.

We have night-fished this stretch of river many times and have never seen anything remotely similar.

''''''

SECTION D: THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OBSERVATION

2) TIME WHEN THE OBJECT(S) WAS FIRST SEEN: 21.30 +/- 15 mins

3) DURATION OF OBSERVATION (ESTIMATE IF UNSURE):-

DURATION MORE THAN: 3 mins

DURATION LESS THAN: 5 mins

4) DATE OF OBSERVATION: 19-9-92

5) WHERE WERE YOU AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT? (NEAREST STREET, DISTRICT & MAIN TOWN) On the bank of the River Gt. Ouse, nr. Newport Pagnell Service Station on the M.1. in N. Milton Keynes

6) WHAT FIRST BROUGHT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE OBJECT(S) SEEN AND WHERE WAS IT (THEY) LOCATED?: Apparent sudden appearance of bright glows in the cloud layer at an elevation of approx. 50°

7) HOW DID THE OBJECT(S) DISAPPEAR FROM VIEW? : Faded as they merged into the general Milton Keynes sky glow low down

8) IF ESTIMATES ARE GIVEN IN QUESTIONS 2, 3 AND 5, HOW DID YOU GAUGE THE TIME? (WATCH, CLOCK TOWER OR RADIO ETC.): Noted the time at 10.20 pm by watch, estimated the sighting as having occurred at least 40 mins earlier

9) BY HOLDING ONE OF THESE FAMILIAR ITEMS AT ARM'S LENGTH, WHICH ONE, IN YOUR ESTIMATION, WOULD JUST COVER THE OBJECT(S) YOU SAW (CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE): pin-head, pea, 1p piece, 2p piece, golf-ball, tennis-ball, other : golfball

10) WAS THE OBJECT PHOTOGRAPHED, FILMED OR VIDEO RECORDED? (IF YES, GIVE DETAILS): no

11) WERE THERE ANY OTHER WITNESSES TO THE OBJECT(S) YOU SAW? (IF YES, GIVE NAMES,ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS WHERE POSSIBLE): Section 40 -
Tel: [redacted]

''''''

13) DID YOU EXPERIENCE ANY LACK OF AWARENESS OF THE PASSAGE OF TIME AROUND THE TIME OF THE OBSERVATION? (IF YES, DESCRIBE): no

14) IF YOU HAVE HAD ANY OTHER UNUSUAL EXPERIENCES IN YOUR LIFE, PLEASE DESCRIBE THEM BRIEFLY HERE (YOU MAY FEEL UNABLE TO DESCRIBE SUCH EVENTS HERE, IF SO, PLEASE INDICATE THAT THERE ARE MATTERS YOU WISH TO DISCUSS IN A MEETING WITH AN INVESTIGATOR): Yes - previous UFO sightings (you already have details of these) - possible ESP experience (I have difficulty relating this to UFO experiences, but anything's possible!)

15) DID ANYTHING 'ODD' OR 'OUT OF PLACE' OCCUR AROUND THE TIME OF THE OBSERVATION? (IF YES, DESCRIBE): no

16) DID ANY OTHER WITNESSES EXPERIENCE ANYTHING IN RELATION TO QUESTIONS 12, 13, 14 & 15? (IF YES, DESCRIBE): no

''''''

E71

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
21 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 12 October concerning UFOs. The CAA have passed your letter to me, as the Ministry of Defence acts as the focal point, at official level, for UFO sightings. I will set out the policy and views of the MOD, together with some other related information that you may find useful. Hopefully you will be able to draw upon the information in this letter when writing your essay.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the accusations that are sometimes made, there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incidents or keep any information about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports the existance of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth.

Recycled Paper

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although a small number of files survived, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office. In fact, most of the reports that we get are relatively unexciting, and refer to little more than a vague light or shape in the sky.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
1979 - 550
1980 - 350
1981 - 600
1982 - 250
1983 - 390
1984 - 214
1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received around 100 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report.

If you are interested in obtaining further information on this subject, you might like to contact some of the civilian organisations currently engaged in study of the UFO phenomenon. I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40
[redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

Contact International (UK)
Section 40
[redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

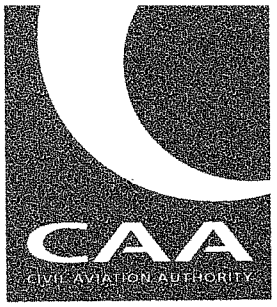
I hope this is helpful, and I should like to wish you the best of luck with your essay. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

WITH COMPLIMENTS

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT



CAA House
45–59 Kingsway
London WC2B 6TE

Telephone Section 40
Fax: Section 40

Can you help with
attached, please.
Will many thanks.

Section 40 [redacted]

12/10/92

Civil Aviation Authority
CAA House
45-49 Kingsway
LONDON
W12 6TE

Dear Sir,

I am a student studying for my GCSEs. My task is to write a discursive essay on a certain subject. The subject I have chosen is Unidentified Flying Objects. I would be very grateful if you could send me any literature on past sightings and the Authority's viewpoint on these. I would also be grateful for any information on the CAA's present stance on this subject.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

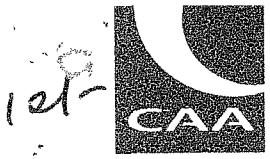
1st-

CAA

1992
EUROPEAN YEAR OF
SAFETY, HYGIENE &
HEALTH PROTECTION
AT WORK

LONDON
16.10.92
W.C.2

GREAT BRITAIN
POSTAGE PAID
024



Information Office
Ministry of Defence
(UFO Section)
Main Building
Whitehall Londo SW1A 2HB

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E 76

See also E 76, + E 80, E 85

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
21 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 15 October in which you asked if we had any material relating to an alleged UFO incident that occurred during 1970.

Regrettably, if we had received a UFO report, the appropriate file would by now have been archived, and sent to the Public Record Office, where it would be covered by the 30 year rule, and not be available for viewing until 30 years after the last action was taken. Although it does not help in this instance, you will wish to be aware that all UFO reports (even if they were made by pilots) should be submitted to this office. I have certainly not heard this story before, and have come across no references to any such incident.

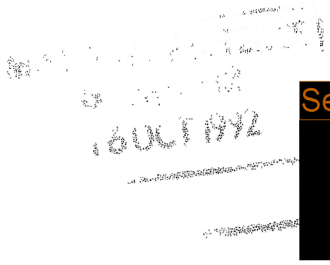
While we do not have a UFO report, I have been able to trace information relating to the loss of the Lightning aircraft. The aircraft concerned was taking part in a Tactical Evaluation Exercise designed to practise the night shadowing and shepherding of low speed targets. For the purpose of the exercise, the targets involved were Shackleton aircraft. There is no indication of any UFO sighting having occurred, and no indication of any unusual or high speed contact.

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with your research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper



Section 40

[redacted]

15/10/92

Dear Section 40

Having been directed to you as one who deals with UFO reports I wonder if you can help with my enquiry.

My enquiry concerns a UFO sighted and tracked by the RAF during 1970. The details are as follows:

At 20.17 on the night of September 8th 1970 radar operators at Saxa Vord picked up an unidentifed target travelling south west. Thinking this was an ordinary intrusion by Russian 'planes they scrambled two Lightnings from RAF Leuchars. As the 'planes were vectored onto the target in accelerated to approx 17,400 mph and vanished from the screen. Hardly the speed of anything flying at the time, I'm sure you will agree. Two F4 Phantoms were then scrambled from the USAF base at Keflavik in Iceland. These also failed to locate the target, despite having radar contact.

Eventually a Lightning was scrambled from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire and vectored onto the target by radar controllers at RAF Staxton Wold. The Lightning, number XS894, left Binbrook at 22.06 and managed a visual contact with the object, now off the Yorkshire coast. The Lightning pilot described the object as a UFO, being too bright to look at easily and of a conical shape. As he closed on the object it turned toward him and all radio contact was lost. The Lightning was later found on the sea bed of Flamborough Head.

As the details of time, place etc are so specific perhaps you could let me know anything else which exists on file about this case. If perhaps the information would be elsewhere as the UFO sighting was made by a pilot then perhaps you could forward me the name and address of the correct person to approach. I look forward to receiving your reply and hopefully further details about this fascinating, and obviously well-documented case.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40

[redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E19

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
19 October 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Your report concerning the strange light in the sky that you and your wife witnessed on 15 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

[redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

[redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
19 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange light in the sky that you witnessed on 13 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E67

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
19 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange lights in the sky that you witnessed on 16 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E66

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
19 October 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Thank you for reporting the strange object that you saw in the sky on Sunday. The details have been passed to the Ministry of Defence as we are sent details of UFO sightings.

Although we think that most UFO sightings can be explained, and are caused by such things as shooting stars or satellites, we accept that some cannot be explained - we have open minds about what causes such sightings.

The Ministry of Defence's role in UFO reports is very small - we look for things that might be a threat to the UK (no UFO sightings so far have suggested any threat). If you would like to find out more about what you saw, then the following groups actually investigate UFO sightings, and may be able to help:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

[redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

165

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
16 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your letter to RAF Rudloe Manor concerning the strange light in the sky that you witnessed during August has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. I apologise for the delay in replying. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Memorandum

MOD Form 4A
(Revised 4/89)

To	From
MOD (SEC (AS) 2G) ROOM Section 40 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1	FCF HQ Pess (UK) RAF RUDLOE MANOR
Date 2 Oct 92	☎ Number Section 40 [redacted]
Your Reference	Our Reference

Subject

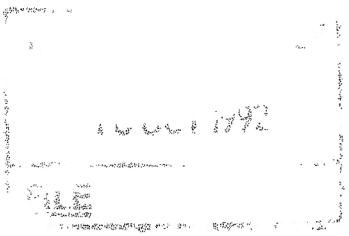
Please find enclosed:

1. A letter regarding an alleged UFO sighting in Coventry. As you can see its been very delayed, presumably due to the inaccurate address.

2. A leaflet we thought may be of some interest to you.

[illegible] 1992

FILE



Name (In Block Letters Please) Section 40 [redacted] Signature: Section 40 [redacted] Rank: A.O.

Section 40

TEL Section 40

Coventry

Section 40

Dear Sir,

On THURSDAY 6/8/92 about 2.37 - 2.43 A.M. I felt compelled to look out my Bedroom window as I looked to my left I saw an enormous STAR and thought this must be a reflection or something odd it's to low For a Star after 3/4 minute it moved in a straight line to the right I noticed no Sound and realised a Large white light was not an aeroplane or a

Star it was huge
and disappeared
behind some clouds

What ? was it ?
did you see it ?
or anyone else.

Please write back

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]
Section 40

R. A. F.
Rudloe Manor
Wiltshire

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 15 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

I understand that you telephoned to report having seen a strange light in the sky last night. The details have been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40 [redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
15 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your recent letter in which you asked if we had any material relating to a UFO sighting at Lakenheath in 1956. I can confirm that we do not have any records on this case. My only knowledge of the incident stems from my reading of Tim Good's book, "Above Top Secret". I am afraid that the most likely explanation is that any papers we had were destroyed a long time ago; as you may be aware, prior to 1967 our UFO files were routinely destroyed after five years.

With regard to your interest in UFO sightings during the Fifties, you will be interested to know that although most of our files from that period have been destroyed, in line with the policy set out above, I have discovered that a few files have survived. These are available for examination by members of the public, and may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

U.F.O'S. CROPFIELD CIRCLES PHENOMENON. RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS.

FROM:- Section 40

MY REF:-'U.F.O INVESTIGATOR.'

SUBJECT:- U.F.O's.

CASE:- LAKENHEATH .1956.

Dear Sirs,

I am sending you this letter with ref to my interest pertaining to the classic U.F.O incident at Lakeneath in August 1956,if you have any 'Unclassified' records of this case,I would very much appreciate a copy from you.?
Please excuse my writing to you on this subject once again,but I am very keen on collecting old U.F.O cases material relating to the 1950's e.t.c!
However,you are under no obligation in answering my letter! But, I shall look forward to your reply,if any.?

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40 .....

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E62

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 October, in which you asked for any further material relating to the five close encounter reports that I sent you copies of recently.

As far as I have been able to discover, the only other paper in any way connected with these cases is a reply that was sent to one of the letters. This reply is fairly standard, simply setting out the role of the Ministry of Defence with regard to UFOs. I have attached a copy of this letter for you. I am not aware of any replies to the other four letters. There are no other documents, and no photographic material.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

(ESS)

(1 OF 2 PAGES)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB
Telephone Section 40 (Direct Dialling)
(Switchboard)

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 7 April 1987

[redacted]
Cheshire
[redacted]

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

[redacted]

Thank you for your letter to the Ministry of Defence about UFOs. I have been asked to reply, and would like to apologise for the delay in so doing.

We are grateful to you for writing about your experience, although I should explain that whilst we do receive and co-ordinate some information about UFO sightings, the main concern of the Ministry of Defence is to determine whether or not Unidentified Flying Objects, as reported to us, present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this is not normally the case, no attempt is made by MOD to investigate or identify the objects. I'm sure you will appreciate that defence funds are fully committed to the continuing security of the UK, within the NATO Alliance, against, first and foremost aggression from Warsaw Pact countries. This being so we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a clear threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

Nonetheless it is clear from the reports that we receive that many strange things have been observed in the sky, although we believe that rational explanations could probably be found for most of them. Possibilities include satellite debris re-entering the earth's atmosphere, ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, meteorological balloons, aircraft lights, aircraft at unusual angles and a host of other rare conjunctions.

I am not sure however that this will be of much comfort to you in explaining your own experience and I am sorry that we cannot be more helpful. I quite appreciate that some sightings where rational explanations are not readily available can be very disturbing and I wonder whether you might like to write to one of the major UFO societies in the UK. Two addresses are given below.

The British UFO Society
Section 40 [redacted]

Midlands UFO Network
Section 40 [redacted]

I also enclose a photocopy of your original letter in case you would like to use this again. Otherwise I do hope that you and your mother recover from your rather bizarre experiences. But if you are having difficulties, please consider consulting a doctor. He may not be able to explain the incidents, but he might be able to help you to stop worrying about them.

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a
Room Section 40 [redacted]
Ministry of Defence (Main Building)
White Hall
London
SW1A 2HB

7 October 1992

Your Ref: D/SEC (AS) 12/3

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you kindly for your letter dated 11 September 1992 and for responding so promptly to my enquiry regarding close encounters.

Numerous questions arise from an examination of the five letters forwarded to me. Many of them may be resolved with my following request.

If permissable, could I have a copy of **all** file material concerning the above, including all correspondence entered into and any photographic material.

Refusal will not offend and a reason for refusal is not asked for, but would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

161

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 8 October concerning your investigation of a UFO sighting that occurred on 19 July 1992, on the M3 motorway.

With regard to your questions about aircraft operating in the area at the time, and information about radar sightings, there is little that I can offer, as we do not have the time or resources to undertake checks of this sort. I doubt that you would be able to get a definitive answer on these points in any case, so long after the event. I suspect that you would need the exact time of the sighting, as well as the date, to make progress on this.

All UFO sightings that are passed to military establishments should be passed here, so we should have any report that was made to one of the establishments you mentioned - or indeed a UFO report made by personnel at one of these establishments. In fact, we have just one report that might possibly tie in with the one you are investigating. I have attached a copy for you, with details of the witness's name and address deleted in the usual way.

I could not draw any firm conclusion from either report, and some of the details are quite vague, but I did wonder whether lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds could be responsible; as you will doubtless be aware, the use of such equipment is now quite common in advertising and entertainment, and has generated many UFO reports involving lights in the sky.

I hope that this is of some use, and I wish you luck with your investigation.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

FEED DIRECTION

U N C L A S S I F I E D

CAB085 21/1148 203C1423 CORRECTED VERSION

FOR CAB

ROUTINE 210815Z JUL 92

FROM RAF WEST DRAYTON
TO MODUK AIR

U N C L A S S I F I E D
SIC Z6F
SUBJECT: AERIAL PHEMONENA
A. 190030Z JUL 92 15 MINUTES
B. 6 BY SMALL TRANSPARENT BALLOON SHAPES. BRIGHT. 10 F ACROSS. 3 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ALONE A329(M) EAST HAMPSTEAD PARK
C. 2 BY OUTDOORS. 1 BY INDOORS. ALL THREE STATIONARY
D. NAKED EYE
E. COMING FROM DIRECTION OF READING
F. 1ST N/K 2ND AND 3RD 90 DEGREES
G. N/K
H. N/K
J. CLEAR SKY
K. NIL
L. NIL
[redacted]
N. NIL
O. NIL
P. 191815Z JUL 92
BT

REDACTED ON ORIGINAL

Ministry of Defence,
Secretariat (Air Staff) S4,
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB

Section 40
[redacted]

Tel. Section 40 [redacted]

8th October, 1992

For the attention of: Section 40 [redacted].

Dear Sir,

POSSIBLE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT, M3 MOTORWAY, 19/7/92

I am writing to you as an investigator for the British UFO Research Association, in connection with an incident which took place on the M3 motorway during the early hours of the 19th July, 1992. I understand that one of the witnesses to the incident contacted you recently on the matter, and that you were kind enough to refer her to our Association's office.

The case has been referred to me for investigation and I have begun making initial enquiries to the various civil bodies in the area. However, examination of a map for the area surrounding the M3 between Junction 4A and the M25 reveals the presence of several military installations, including the Army base at Aldershot, RAF Odiham and RAE Farnborough.

In the hope of curtailing fruitless enquiries to each of these establishments in turn, I would venture to request some assistance on this part of the investigation from yourself. I should be glad if you would be able to advise me on the points which I have listed below for your convenience:-

1) was any military aircraft or helicopter operating in this area at the time, which might have given rise to a case of misidentification?

2) were any possible UFO sighting reports made by other witnesses to any of the military establishments in the area or to yourself on or around this date?

3) did any military establishments make any anomalous radar sightings in this area on or around this date?

4) was this or any similar sighting also witnessed by personnel at any of the military establishments in the area?

If you should be aware of any other persons who might have information which would help me in this investigation, I should be glad if you would let me have the relevant details. I would quite understand that it may not be your policy to release the

names of MoD personnel and members of the public on such an approach, but if that is the case, I should be happy to receive any useful information on an anonymous basis. I should also be happy if you would arrange for my details to be passed to any witnesses in case they should wish to contact me on this matter.

As a member of the British UFO Research Association, I am bound by its Code of Practice, which ensures, amongst other things, that witnesses' requests for confidentiality are upheld. I can assure you that any persons approaching me on this matter will receive a respectful response.

Thank you for assisting the witness in this case to contact BUFORA. I hope to be able to shed some further light on this sighting in the near future, and I would very much appreciate whatever assistance you might find yourself able to provide,

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

(Provisional Investigator, British UFO Research Association)

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E60

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the strange object that you saw in the sky on 9 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the strange lights that you and other witnesses saw in the sky on 10 October has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

I note that photographs and a video were taken; although our involvement in the subject is fairly limited, and we could not devote time and resources to detailed scientific analysis, we would be happy to take a look at the material, and let you know what we think.

You might also like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no Section 40

Recycled Paper

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E58

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The details of the report that you made to RAF Wittering concerning the strange light that you saw in the sky early yesterday morning have been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles or satellites in low orbit. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E57

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
13 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 October in which you asked a number of questions about the MOD's policy and role with regard to UFO sightings.

You asked whether our UFO statistics included sightings reported by military personnel such as RAF pilots. The figures that I give are always total figures, and include all sightings reported to us, irrespective of the occupation of the witness. Having said this, we do not break sightings down by category, and I am not able to give you any information on how many sightings have been reported by the military. Any sightings by military witnesses should be reported to us in the usual way. I would probably have noticed a report from a military witness, but do not recall having seen one in my time here. The only cases that I am familiar with that involve military witnesses are the RAF Topcliffe sightings in 1952, and Lt Col Halt's report.

You also asked about our conclusion that, to date, UFOs have not posed any threat to national security. We look at all reports of UFO sightings - as do staff in those departments responsible for the air defence of the UK - to determine whether there seems to be a threat to the UK's security. The fact is that to date we have not found any evidence of such a threat. While sightings are often unidentified, it does not follow that this means that there is a threat to security. The key consideration in determining any threat is evidence, and the simple fact is that we do not possess any. Given our scrutiny of UFO reports, I do not agree that the information we hold is "unevaluated". Of course, as you know from previous correspondence, the reports we hold are almost all limited to fairly vague details of lights or shapes in the sky.

Finally, you asked about UK studies into the UFO phenomenon. I am not aware of any such studies, although our views do mirror the general findings of the US Project Blue Book study, which concluded that there was no evidence that UFOs are extraterrestrial, or that alien life exists. However, in common with the Americans, we are open-minded about the possibilities. Like you, I will be watching the current NASA SETI project with interest!

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Ministry of Defence,
Section 40
Secretariat(Air Staff)2a,
Room Section 40
Main Building Whitehall,
London SW1 2HB

12 OCT 1992

Section 40

Date: 09 OCT 1992

Dear Section 40

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your kind and informative letter of September 24, 1992, together with the enclosed list.

There is certainly a fresh breeze of trust and openness since you have taken your current position in MOD, and in particular in that office.

There are still a number of issues that I for one, as a researcher, would like to learn concerning this subject [UFOs], where MOD is involved.

For example, the statistical numbers provided to us, i.e. the latest for 1991. Does that number include the reports of sightings by the military or RAf Pilots, or it is excluded. If it is included I would like to learn the number and i.e. the bases to which they have been reported. Furthermore, the current information is considered as "Unevaluated", I would like to learn the reports of findings by DI55 or other components within the MOD about them.

Equally important is the fact and the policy your office pursues in response to the inquiries made by the public at large. Which in few words; the UFOs do not constitute any threat to the national security. I am very keen indeed to see or study the report compiled by the "body" as result of their findings, henceforth, the conclusions derived there from, leading to this fact. We have had little problem obtaining material about the above from other countries, as yet despite the Citizen's Charter, or other related polices encouraging the exercise of more openness, I am in the dark.

Could you please be of any assistance in the areas mentioned above? When was the last time, or any time, when Britain conducted a study, either through contractors, third parties or otherwise on the subject of UFOs? And what were the results of

their findings as it is documented. Or, did we simply copied the policy adopted from the US's findings on this subject without conducting our own scientific studies?

I would appreciate any help or assistance you may give me, as mentioned before, on my inquiry. It will indeed help our public to have a better understanding of our policies and would take away any myths, mis-understanding or suspicion the researchers in this country have about the MOD's policy or role on this subject [UFOs].

Thanking you in advance for your consideration, I remain.

Sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E56

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
13 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the lights that you and your husband saw in the sky on 1 October has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E55

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
13 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for sending the tape in which you described your husband's encounter with a UFO, and the distressing events that have taken place since.

As I explained in my previous letter, the role of the Ministry of Defence with regard to UFOs is very limited. The national UFO societies, whose details I gave in my earlier letter, carry out detailed investigations of UFO sightings.

With regard to getting your husband some sort of radiation test, or obtaing a Geiger counter, I hope that my suggestions in my last letter prove useful; I cannot think of anything else to suggest.

I quite understand why you do not wish to send your photographs through the post. I am afraid that I will not be able to visit you, so if you did want me to take a look at the photos, then I suggest that you only send one or two, and that you send them by Recorded Delivery.

I hope that I have managed to help in some way; please give my best wishes to your husband.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
6 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

As we discussed yesterday, I am unlikely to be able to attend any of your training days for the time being. I would like to come along at some stage, but even if I did, there is probably little I could add to what I told you during our recent meeting.

It should be relatively easy for you to tell your investigators about the role and views of the MOD with regard to UFO sightings, by drawing upon our recent discussions, and by using the information in my letter dated 24 September 1992, which you are free to reproduce and pass around as necessary.

As we discussed, your investigators can approach us on any sighting they are looking into, and we can then let them know if we have had a report that might tie in with their case; if we have, we can send them copies, with names and addresses of witnesses deleted, in the usual way. We can also volunteer our own opinion of what may have been seen, if we have a view. We will also do our best to answer any more general questions about the UFO phenomenon.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

British UFO Research Association

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
f.a.o. Section 40

Tel. Section 40

Date: 28th September 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for our very interesting and very useful meeting of 23rd September and also for your two letters of 24th September and enclosures. I will certainly see to it that this information is given to our board of directors and investigators as it is very important that we should understand the Ministry's position on UFOs so that we can work with you in your more 'open door' policy. I am sure that BUFORA will join me in being delighted with your healthy and intelligent approach to the subject.

I would like to suggest a way in which we can promote your open door policy further while at the same time assisting our investigators to understand how they can most effectively work with your department. BUFORA periodically holds training days for investigators and I know that the council will be delighted for you to attend. You could merely sit in and find out something about the way we work or, and we would be delighted if this was the case, you could contribute by describing the activities of your department and how investigators can use your department to answer specific queries about particular sightings and so on. I mentioned a training day that was being held in October but I understand from the chairman that even as you and I were talking at our meeting that was being re-scheduled due to one or two administrative problems inside BUFORA. I will of course let you know the next training date as soon as possible but this would give you time to consider the proposal and what role, if any, you might want to play.

I did try to telephone you on the 28th but I understand you are away for a few days leave. Perhaps when you get this letter you can give me a ring so that we can discuss this.

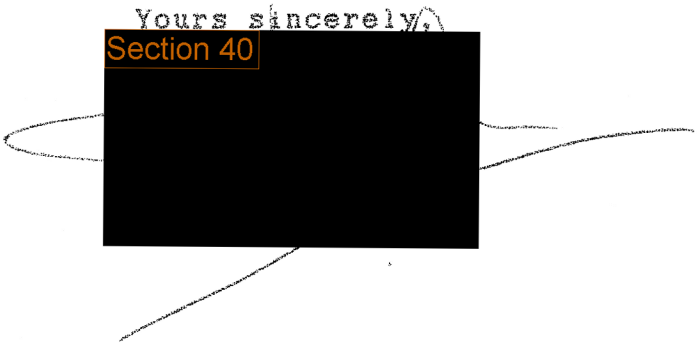
Lastly, just a note to let you know that I have ensured you are on the distribution list for our house magazine which I think will be of use to you. Should you not receive one by the end of October (which I think is the next publication scheduled), please ring me as it will mean that something has gone wrong

administratively and the quicker I put it right the better.

Once again thank you very much for your assistance and I look forward to our speaking again in the future.

Very best wishes for now.

Yours sincerely,



From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
5 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the strange object that you and your mother saw in the sky on 23 September has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds or ball lightning. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
5 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

When we spoke on the telephone earlier today, I promised to write to you.

I was very sorry to hear that your husband has been so ill. While I am not qualified to give any medical opinions - which should come from a GP or a hospital - it sounds as if your husband needs to see a radiologist. If you are having difficulties in getting an appointment and arranging for a test, then I suggest you ask your local Citizens Advice Bureau if they can help. We also spoke about obtaining a Geiger-counter. You might try approaching a university, as their medical or scientific departments may be able to help.

The Ministry of Defence's involvement in the subject of UFOs is limited to receiving and co-ordinating reports of sightings. If you wish to write with details of what happened to your husband, and want us to take a look at the photos, then please write to me at the above address, and I will let you know what we think.

You may also wish to get in touch with the civilian groups that investigate UFOs; they may have some other ideas, and might be able to help. I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful, and I hope your husband makes a full recovery.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E51

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
2 October 1992

Dear Section 40

The report that you made concerning the strange object that you and your friend saw on 28 September has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include satellites or satellite debris entering the atmosphere, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, meteorites or fireballs. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40 [redacted]

Tel no. Section 40 [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40 [redacted]

30/9/92.

No reply necessary

E50

Sender's Address

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40

Our Mascot

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER DATE 22/9/92. CONCERNING THE UFO PHENOMENON. I FOUND SOME OF THE REPORTS VERY INTERESTING. AS THE (MOD) SAY THEY HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT WOULD SUPPORT THE EXISTENCE OF ALIEN LIFE, BUT SIGHTINGS OF UFOS ARE REPORTED ALL AROUND THE WORLD BY PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND NATIONS. AND WHAT OF THE MANY PHOTOS TAKEN BY PEOPLE? ANY WAY THANK YOU AGAIN. IF YOU HAVE ANY MORE REPORTS OR INFORMATION I WOULD BE GRATEFULL IF YOU WOULD LET ME HAVE SOME.

Thank you

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

E49

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
1 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 September, in which you asked a number of questions about our UFO files, and previous sightings.

You asked whether any other UFO files, apart from the ones I mentioned previously, might be available for public viewing at the Public Record Office. As far as I am aware, the file references that I quoted in my previous letter are the only ones currently available. In 1967 the previous practice of destroying old UFO files was changed, and files were marked for permanent retention. You should check the exact position with the PRO, but this should mean that in a few years our old UFO files should be available to the public under the terms of the 30 year rule, with the 1967 files being made available in 1997, 1968 files in 1998, and so on. Depending on how quickly the PRO destroyed old files, some other pre-1967 files might also have survived, and would be available 30 years after the last action was taken. Again, I suggest you check the exact position with the PRO.

You asked whether there was information on what percentage of 1960s sightings were reported by military personnel. I am unaware of information having being compiled in this way, and can only say that I cannot recall having seen a UFO report submitted by military personnel, with the exception of the sightings by personnel from RAF Topcliffe in 1952, and Lt Col Halt's report on the UFO sighting near RAF Woodbridge in 1980.

On this latter point, you asked whether there are other records on the Rendlesham Forest sighting, apart from Lt Col Halt's memo. I can confirm that this memo is the only record that we have on this sighting.

With regard to your final question about departments that receive UFO reports, I can confirm that all UFO reports should come to Sec(AS)2a. Although reports also reach those departments in the MoD concerned with the air defence of the UK, we would see everything, and there is no question of any sightings having passed us by.

I hope this answers your questions, but please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

TELEPHONE: Section 40

Section 40

28 September 1992

Dear Section 40

Thankyou very much indeed for your letter of September 24, received today. It was very good of you to relate the information contained in your letter. I have done quite a bit of research through the Public Record Office and do in fact already have the records you cited. However, I didn't have the statistical figures for the number of sightings reported through the late 1950's and 1960's so I would like to thankyou for supplying this data.

By writing to you I am hoping that you may be able to help me on a couple of points.

1. Is there any indication that other UFO-related files may exist in the Public Record Office which would be available for public viewing or do the ones you cited comprise the total amount of available data at PRO ?

2. Concerning the number of sightings reported to the MOD in the 1960's, is there any indication of what percentage (if any) were by military personnel ?

3. Several years ago I corresponded with your department with regard to a UFO sighting which took place in December 1980 in Rendlesham Forest, England. A report was made by the USAF, a copy of which was forwarded to me. It was mentioned in the MOD letter that accompanied this report that the British Government had determined that there was no defence threat. Is it possible for you to tell me if records exist and if they are available which relate to the Government determination that there was no threat ? Or is the report by Colonel Halt the only record that the MOD has on this case?

4. Could you tell me if there are other departments within the British Government which receive copies of UFO reports and if so what action is taken on their part ? My reason for asking is that I sometimes get reports of UFO sightings (particularly from the 1950's) from former military personnel alledging sometimes quite significant UFO sightings around British airbases but no records can be traced at PRO. Is it feasable that if a case was deemed particularly significant it would be investigated or handled by a different department, or do all reports go through the same channels ?

I hope that you may be able to help me on the above points and would like to thankyou again for sending me the information with your 24 September letter. It was very much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E48

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
1 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the strange objects that you and your neighbour saw on 24 September has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lightning or fireballs. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

RAF LIAISON OFFICE
Royal Air Force Bentwaters Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 2RQ

Telephone Bentwaters [redacted]

[redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff)2a
Room [redacted]
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
LONDON SW1A 2HB

BENT/1/2/AIR

29 September 1992

Dear [redacted]

REPORT OF UFO SIGHTING - THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 1992

1. As you expressed an interest in the reported sighting of a UFO near RAF Woodbridge on 27 December 1980, you may be interested in a telephone call from a husband and wife from Felixstowe that I received yesterday.

2. Last Thursday 24 September, both [redacted] were returning to their home at 2045 hours when they both noticed what they thought were 3 shooting stars. What really caught their attention was that they dropped vertically and then started dog fighting or dancing between each other. They seemed to be about 1 1/2 miles away and at about 20k feet dropping over Felixstowe dock. There was no noise, no distinctive shape to them although they appeared to be oyster like, were amber in colour and left no trail.

3. It was a clear night except for a little cloud which, after a few minutes, the 3 lights disappeared into. Both [redacted] drew a neighbours' attention to this phenomenon which she also witnessed. [redacted] reported his experience to the local police station in Felixstowe but no other reports had been filed. Still curious, they telephoned my office and I said I would pass the detail on. Both were happy to release their telephone number and address and were keen to say that they were not cranks and that this report was not a hoax. If you wish to follow this up, I suggest that you write or telephone:

[redacted]

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Squadron Leader
RAF Commander

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
1 October 1992

Dear Section 40,

The report that you made concerning the strange object that your daughter Lucy saw on 23 September has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include ball lightning or fireballs, although we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact some of the civilian organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in Section 40 sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E46

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

When I wrote to you earlier today I forgot to give you the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence. I recently found some historical data relating to the number of UFO sightings reported to us in previous years. I have therefore been able to draw up a more comprehensive list than has previously been produced, and I attach a copy for your information.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

NUMBERS OF UFO SIGHTINGS REPORTED TO THE MOD

1959 - 22	1976 - n/k
1960 - 31	1977 - n/k
1961 - 71	1978 - 750
1962 - 46	1979 - 550
1963 - 51	1980 - 350
1964 - 74	1981 - 600
1965 - 56	1982 - 250
1966 - 95	1983 - 390
1967 - 362	1984 - 214
1968 - 280	1985 - 177
1969 - 228	1986 - 120
1970 - 181	1987 - 150
1971 - 379	1988 - 397
1972 - 201	1989 - 258
1973 - n/k	1990 - 209
1974 - n/k	1991 - 117
1975 - n/k	

Note 1 - Figures prior to 1959 not known

Note 2 - 96 sightings so far this year

E45

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40

In previous correspondence on the subject of the MoD's old UFO files, we have said that prior to 1967 all UFO files were destroyed after five years. I have recently discovered that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination by members of the public. They may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

On another matter, while sorting through our files, I discovered some old information relating to the number of sightings reported to the MoD in previous years. I have now produced a table detailing this information. While there are still some years that I do not have information for, I think this is more comprehensive than any previous list we have produced.

I hope this information is helpful. I will keep you informed of any interesting developments.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

NUMBERS OF UFO SIGHTINGS REPORTED TO THE MOD

1959 - 22	1976 - n/k
1960 - 31	1977 - n/k
1961 - 71	1978 - 750
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1970 - 181	1987 - 150
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1974 - n/k	1991 - 117
1975 - n/k	

Note 1 - Figures prior to 1959 not known

Note 2 - 96 sightings so far this year

E44

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40
Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

In previous correspondence on the subject of the MoD's old UFO files, we have said that prior to 1967 all UFO files were destroyed after five years. I have recently discovered that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination by members of the public. They may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

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Section 40

Recycled Paper

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1974 - n/k	1991 - 117
1975 - n/k	

Note 1 - Figures prior to 1959 not known

Note 2 - 96 sightings so far this year

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

In previous correspondence I believe I have indicated that prior to 1967 all UFO records were destroyed after five years. I have now discovered that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination by members of the public. They may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

On another matter, while sorting through our files, I discovered some old information relating to the number of sightings reported to the MoD in previous years, and I have attached a table detailing this information. While there are still some years that I do not have information for, I think this is more comprehensive than any previous list we have produced.

I hope this information is helpful. I will keep you informed of any interesting developments.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

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1959 - 22	1976 - n/k
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1972 - 201	1989 - 258
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1974 - n/k	1991 - 117
1975 - n/k	

Note 1 - Figures prior to 1959 not known

Note 2 - 96 sightings so far this year

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

We have corresponded previously about the contents of our UFO files, and I indicated that prior to 1967 all UFO records were destroyed after five years. I have now discovered that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination by members of the public. They may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

I believe you have also asked about the number of sightings reported to us. While sorting through our files, I discovered some old information relating to the number of sightings reported to the MoD in previous years, and I have attached a table detailing this information. While there are still some years that I do not have information for, I think this is more comprehensive than any previous list we have produced.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

NUMBERS OF UFO SIGHTINGS REPORTED TO THE MOD

1959 - 22	1976 - n/k
1960 - 31	1977 - n/k
1961 - 71	1978 - 750
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1973 - n/k	1990 - 209
1974 - n/k	1991 - 117
1975 - n/k	

Note 1 - Figures prior to 1959 not known

Note 2 - 96 sightings so far this year

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

You wrote to me some time ago about UFO records, and I indicated that prior to 1967 all UFO records were destroyed after five years. I have now discovered that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination by members of the public. They may be viewed at the Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DV. The references of the files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40

When we met yesterday I promised to let you have a written note setting out the Ministry of Defence's position on UFOs.

While the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Given this limited involvement with the subject, the Ministry of Defence has no department which is appointed solely for the purpose of studying UFO reports, nor are there any staff employed on the subject full time. The reports we receive, which are usually limited to very brief details of what was seen, are passed to staff in departments concerned with the air defence of the United Kingdom, who examine them as part of their normal duties. I have attached a copy of the form that we use to record details of a UFO sighting.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. I am sure you will appreciate that defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. Consequently, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, unusual cloud formations, satellites in orbit or satellite debris entering the atmosphere, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. We accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

I regret that the release of material from our files "en bloc" is not possible because, as is the case with other government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act. As you are aware, this act states that official files generally remain closed from public viewing for 30

Recycled Paper

years after the last action has been taken. However, we are able to answer specific queries you may have about particular sightings which have occurred recently, and can let you know whether we have a report on the incident, and if so, what it contains. We can also answer questions about specific types of sightings, and can release examples of reports, although as is the case with any report that we release, we will delete the name and address of any witnesses. We will always do our best to answer any questions that people have about the UFO phenomenon, and will endeavour to keep the national groups such as BUFORA informed of any interesting developments.

As I explained in my letter dated 27 July, it was generally the case that before 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed after five years, although I am aware that a few files from the Fifties have survived, and are available for examination at the Public Record Office. The references of these files are as follows:

AIR 16/1199
AIR 20/7390
AIR 20/9320
AIR 20/9321
AIR 20/9322
AIR 20/9994
PREM 11/855

Contrary to some of the allegations that are often circulated, there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incident, silence witnesses, or in any way obscure the truth about UFOs from the general public. Indeed, by suggesting to witnesses or enthusiasts that they get in touch with the national UFO groups, we are probably adding to the general level of interest in UFOs, and bringing into the public domain sightings that would probably not otherwise have been made public; not the activities of an organisation carrying out some sort of cover-up! The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence that would support the existence of alien life, or suggest that alien spacecraft have ever visited the earth.

The only information we have on the alleged UFO sighting at Rendlesham Forest in December 1980 is the report by Lt Col Charles Halt of the United States Air Force. We are satisfied that the events descibed are of no defence significance.

The Ministry of Defence is not involved in any research or investigation into the crop circle phenomenon, although we would refer people to the Centre for Crop Circle Studies in the same way as we refer people to the national UFO groups.

We discussed the general role and structure of the Ministry of Defence, and on this point, I have obtained from our public relations section a booklet which you will probably find very helpful. Although some of it is out of date, it does contain a lot of useful information; the Statement on the Defence Estimates 1992 will be your best source for more up to date information.

I hope this helps is helpful, and has clarified our policy. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E39

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
24 September 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your recent letter on the subject of UFOs.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings, our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs, or satellite debris entering the atmosphere. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Contrary to some of the strange stories that sometimes circulate among ufologists, the Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence that would support the existence of alien life, or suggest that alien spacecraft have ever visited the earth. I would also like to assure you that there is no question of our attempting to cover up any incident, silence witnesses, or in any way trying to obscure the truth about UFOs from the general public.

I note what you have to say about religion, although you will appreciate that this is not a matter for the Ministry of Defence.

I wish you luck with setting up your own UFO group; in doing this, you may wish to liaise with some of the existing groups, to exchange ideas and seek advice. If you wish to take up this suggestion, then I would suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

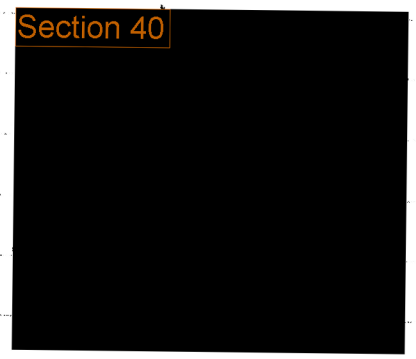
Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful, and I wish you luck with your research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec(A)3W
25 SEP 1992
FILE

Dear Sir

I hope in a little while to set up an organisation into the study of UFOs, now I know for a fact that our government and the US government strongly deny the existance of such craft and go to great lenths silencing witnesses to such Incidents. my question to you Sir is why do you go to great lenghths for all this secrecy.

There is a well known Saying among all us UFOligists, 'It only takes one landing in a populated area to prove that UFO are real' which I believe is true you see imagine if this did happen what it would do to the population of this earth, besides all the panic it would cause what questions would it raise, and think of the devistating fact it would have on the religious communities around the world especially if our visitors stated that on their planet there is no God, Think of it the bible would have to be rewritten or scraped. My theory is that the human race has been brain washed over the years, I mean why are we taught religion from an early age is it really important that we believe in god. I'm willing to bet a weeks wages that John Major and George Bush do not believe in him because they have already seen proof that he does

not exist, so I ask myself why has the human race been mislead by such fairytales could it be that we are some kind of experiment by some higher intelligence I think sometimes that the human race is so small minded because they believe anything that the governments of the world tell them, but I believe that the governments of the world know differently so when I set up my organisation I am going to write to every news paper in the world if I have to to explain this to them and to make sure they print the truth.

I must say its been a pleasure writing this letter and I hope to hear from you soon.

Thankyou [redacted] Section 40

E38

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
22 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 18 September on the subject of UFOs, and the release of information.

Although, as you recognise, our interest is limited to possible defence implications, we do try to be as open and as helpful as possible, and provide assistance to the national UFO groups and to researchers when we can. We have always said that if we are asked about a specific sighting, we can check if we received a report that might tie in with what was seen. If we do have any such reports, we will give out a copy, having deleted the name and address of the witness in the usual way. When researchers ask us about sightings they are investigating, we will always try and offer our own view - if we have one - based on the details provided.

When anybody asks us about our policy on UFOs, or reports a sighting, we suggest that they contact the national UFO groups. This means that these groups are contacted by many people who would probably not otherwise have got in touch. As a result, they are getting many UFO reports (and perhaps new members) that they would otherwise not have got. I know that they are grateful for this.

As you are probably aware, we are bound by the public records act, and are not able to release all the material from our files. However, we can let people know, in general terms, what our files contain. Essentially, they contain two things: firstly, letters such as yours, asking questions about the Government's views and policy on UFOs, and secondly, the actual UFO reports themselves. These are far less exciting than most people would suppose; nearly all of the sightings that have been reported to us relate to little more than a description of a light or a shape in the sky. Of all the reports on the files we hold - which go back to about 1985 - only five go further than this, and describe what ufologists might classify as a close encounter of the third or fourth kind. These five reports have been released to the UFO groups, and I have attached copies for you. I make no judgements on these reports, and leave researchers to draw their own conclusions. As we have said before, we have no evidence that would support the existence of alien life, or suggest that alien spacecraft have ever visited the Earth.

Recycled Paper

We will always do our best to answer any other queries on policy or on specific sightings, such as letting people know the number of UFO reports submitted to the Ministry of Defence - 96 so far this year.

I have said that I will try to let the national UFO groups know about any developments, and I imagine that they would publish the details in their magazines, to keep subscribers informed.

I hope this information is helpful, and I wish you luck with your own research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

18/9/1992

Sender's Address

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40

Our Mascot

Dear Sir or Madam

I am very interested in the (UFO) Phenomenon or Unidentified Flying Objects. and my research has been interesting I also subscribe to a (UFO) magazine.

I fully appreciate the Departments. first role must be National Security. I am led to believe that (AS2 Air Staff 2) of the (MOD) has become more open to the serious UFO Researcher with UFO information. I would be very interested in any Reports and information. concerning UFOs. if the (MOD) can be of help to me. I thank you.

Thank you

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E37

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
21 September 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister, on the subject of UFOs. I have been asked to reply.

It may be useful if I began by explaining that while the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, unusual cloud formations, satellites in orbit or satellite debris entering the atmosphere, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites.

I entirely accept your observation that most UFO reports are made by sensible people, but we remain of the view that nearly all of these sightings relate to explainable phenomena, such as the ones listed above. To give you a few examples, many UFO reports were generated by an incident last December in which an aircraft jettisoned fuel, which subsequently ignited. Earlier this year a wave of sightings was generated when an airship flew over London, brightly illuminated from the inside. I saw this myself, and can quite understand how, when seen from a distance, this caused many people to report a bright cigar-shaped UFO over the city.

We do accept that there will always be some UFO sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these. However, contrary to the stories that sometimes circulate, the Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence to support the existence of alien life, or to suggest that alien spacecraft have landed on the earth. I would like to assure you that there is no question of attempting to cover up any incident, nor are we trying in any way to obscure the truth about UFOs from the general public. You mentioned evidence that has been uncovered by researchers, but I am aware that some of the material that would seem to support the more exotic UFO incidents is widely believed to have been faked.

Recycled Paper

You mentioned the UFO sighting at Rendlesham Forest; the only information that we have on this is the report by Lt Col Charles Halt of the United States Air Force, but we are satisfied that the events descibed are of no defence significance. I am aware of some of the rumours that circulate about this incident, but have yet to see any evidence that would support them.

You asked whether information on UFOs could be released from our files; the release of material on the subject "en bloc" is not possible because, as is the case with other government departments, all MoD files are subject to the public records act. As you may be aware, this act states that official files generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Having said this, I should say that our files contain little more than letters - such as yours - asking about the Government's policy on UFOs, and actual UFO reports, which usually relate to little more than the sighting of a light or a shape in the sky. There is certainly nothing on our files that would, if released, cause any sort of panic.

I hope this helps explain the Government's position on UFOs.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Head of Sec(AS)

/ The attached letter which the Prime Minister has received has been acknowledged by 10 Downing Street and has been forwarded to this Department for official action.

a. No 10 have passed it to us for action as we see fit and you are asked to consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and to action accordingly.

or

b. No 10 have asked that a full reply be sent and you should know that the Prime Minister attaches importance to such replies being sent expeditiously.

2. Unless specifically asked to do so, there is no need for you to copy your replies to this office.

17/9/92

Section 40

for APS/Secretary of State

Section 40

2 Mod

Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Mr MAJOR,

I am writing to you, to find out your views on the subject of U.F.Os. As you may be aware, There are certain groups who claim that there is a huge cover up by the worlds governments regarding information on the subject. For example, You may have heard the "rumours" about the Rendlesham forest incident, Where it is suspected to have been the location of an alien craft either landing, or crashing. The overwhelming information, which U.F.O.

investigators have gathered on the subject, must have at least, a little truth in it. Therefore, Why is it that governmental groups such as the M.O.D. Seem to go out of there way to dismiss such incidents, Using the excuse about being, mistaken identity, or natural phenomena etc. When thousands of members of public, know that this couldnt be so, by the evidence gathered by investigators.

Every body who has studied the subject realises that the majority of reports come from sensible individuals such as, Police officers, RAF PILOTS, CIVILIAN PILOTS, EVEN

Certain Politicians (eg. ex President of USA, Jimmy Carter, who claims to have seen UFOs).
People like that know what they see, when they see it.
I am not trying to say that we are about to be invaded by little green men, or anything. But surely there must be something going on, and some people at the top know something. Surley the General public who, after all, put the Governments in Power in the first place, Have a right to know such things.
Dont you think that it would be right to release all the information gathered by governments, so that all

the people
Know that ere, will
a U.F.O. Th ey see
that what they will know
whatever U.F.O's see, is
(which thousands believe, that
somebody in power knows what they
are).

Is the information gathered
by such bodies as the M.O.D
So bad, that if released
would cause worldwide panic?
If so, we all definatley
need to know now, Rather
than wait for whatever is
in store for us.

I would be very grateful
if you could find the time to
give me your views on what I
have written.

yours Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E36

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40
British Astronomical Association
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
16 September 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

I understand that you are investigating the reports of a fireball seen over the UK on the night of Sunday 16 August.

I deal with reports of UFOs, and have taken a number of calls from people who saw an object flash across the sky that night. These reports came from areas such as Manchester, Wigan, St Helens, and various parts of North Wales, and I explained that we believed the object to have been a fireball. On the understanding that you were attempting to plot the course of the object over the UK, to try and locate any part of it that fell to earth, I suggested to people that they get in touch with the British Astronomical Association. I hope this did result in some additional reports reaching you.

If you are not already in touch with the UFO societies, you may wish to contact them, as I know they received many reports of this object. The details of these groups are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this information is useful, and I wish you luck with your investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40

Fylingdales :

FH LL Section 40

DAILY POST - 18-8-92

Meteor showers caused flood of UFO reports

METEOR showers may have been responsible for a flood of UFO reports across Wales yesterday.

Reports of vivid lights and flashes came from all over the Principality.

An ambulanceman who saw a blue flashing light as he was driving along a country road in the Dolgellau area late on Sunday night thought he had turned on his emergency lights by mistake.

The switchboard to BBC Radio Cymru's Hywel Gwynfryn programme was jammed yesterday morning as puzzled householders tried to find out what had happened.

By Emyr Williams
Daily Post Correspondent

The Astronomy Centre based in Cambridge said the most likely explanation was meteor showers.

The BBC programme's hotline was permanently engaged for two hours, but around 50 listeners succeeded in getting through to the studio in Cardiff to describe what many believed to be an unidentified flying object that had lit up the sky at around 11pm on Sunday.

Thomas Jones, of Llanbrynmair, Powys, was outside his home at the time saying goodnight to a neighbour, when he said he was startled by a pure white flash.

"I looked up into the sky and saw a bright blue object as big as a little boat, with a long streak of fire about twenty feet long coming from it," said Mr Jones.

"It was about 50 feet above the ground and gave off a loud whooshing noise. Later on there was a distinct smell in the air, but I've no idea what it was."

In Shrewsbury, there was a sighting of a "silver cascade of mercury pouring out of the sky."

Other spotters said they had seen green and orange lights and said the sky had been lit up for several seconds.

A woman who was on the telephone at the time said the line went dead as the lights passed over.

Morfudd Roberts, at Uwchmynydd, near Aberdaron, was out in the garden at the time, when she saw the night sky lighting up as a mysterious object flew over the peninsula.

The RAF at Valley, Hereford and Brawdy, as well as coastguards, confirmed that the lights were nothing to do with them.

But a possible solution to the mystery came later when a spokesman at the Astronomy Centre in Cambridge said they believed the mystery objects were meteor showers.

Thomas Jones, however, was not convinced. He claimed that meteors usually fell to the ground, whereas the object he saw on Sunday night was flying over Mid Wales and continued into the distance "just like some sort of flying object or a satellite."

CRO RAF Valley - FO Section 40

Section 40 British Astronomical Association,

Section 40

Scientists study reports of UFO

AN INVESTIGATION began yesterday to solve the mystery of an unidentified flying object spotted the length of Wales on Sunday night.

Hundreds of people claim they saw the blue ball of light in the night skies as it travelled at an incredible speed in a rough line from Newport to Anglesey.

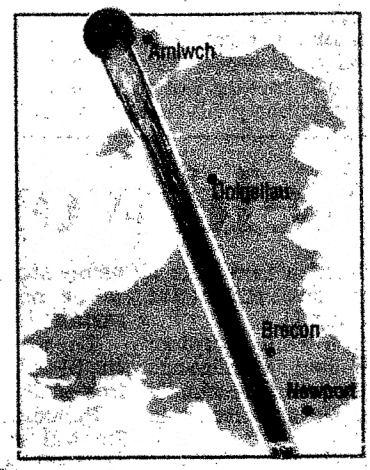
The sightings are being examined by the British Astronomical Association, but UFO investigators believe the object was from outer space.

A farmer from Llanbrynmair, Powys, said the ball was so close that it was "frightening."

"It took my breath away because it was so bright and travelling so fast," said Tomos Jones who watched the object with his wife Dorothy and neighbour Maldwyn Davies.

"It was a big blue ball with a fire coming from the back of it. It seemed to be about the height of the beech trees and went over our house towards Dolgellau."

"There was a loud whooshing noise and later on their was a distinct smell in the air."



THE PATH of the UFO.

Former seaman Wyn Lodwick was travelling from Brecon to Llandovery when he saw it.

"In all my years at sea I have never seen anything like this

TURN TO PAGE 2

WESTERN MAIL
18-8-92

- Half of yesterday was spent dealing with calls concerning this - breaks low flying complaints + they can't pin this one on us!

cont'd

Scientists to study UFO claims

FROM PAGE ONE

before. It was a blue ball flying at aeroplane height with a tail about half a mile long," he said.

"The whole valley became lit up like daylight. It was quite frightening."

Catherine Povey was speaking on the telephone when suddenly the sky turned blue. "As soon as the sky lit up my phone went dead," said Ms Povey, from Porthmadog.

Yesterday morning callers to BBC Radio Cymru's *Hywel Gwynfryn* programme jammed the switchboard as they attempted to report sightings of the object, most around 10.45pm.

But scientists believe that the ball was a natural phenomenon. Dr John Mason, co-ordinator of the British Fireball Survey, is investigating the sightings on behalf of the BAS.

"There are various types of meteorite which look like blue pear shaped objects with a vapour trail behind them. But it is impossible to say exactly what it is until I have studied the reports," he said.

The Times, Saturday 22 August

Meteorite takes the high road

BY KERRY GILL

THE public was urged yesterday to help in the hunt for a meteorite, thought to have entered the atmosphere at 100,000mph and first seen ed over the Bristol Channel.

Astronomical researchers believe that a surviving piece of the meteorite may have crashed in the Inner Hebrides after travelling north across Wales and the west of Scotland before disappearing.

A fragment of the rock could be lying in someone's back garden on the islands of Tiree, Jura or Mull or, perhaps more likely, has plummeted into the sea.

Dr John Mason, of the British Astronomical Association in London, has received hundreds of calls from as far afield as Bristol, Cardiff, Sheffield, Anglesey, Stranraer and Fort William from people who saw the glow of the object which was so bright that it lit up the sky on Sunday night.

"I don't think we have had an event as important as this in ten years," he said. "If we can find a remnant it will greatly add to our knowledge of inter-planetary debris reaching the atmosphere," he said. "What we can say for certain is that it was not a piece of man-made space junk. It must have been a natural piece of inter-planetary rock which had been orbiting the sun and has been pulled into the earth's gravity."

The association hopes to piece together all the information about the meteorite. From its path and the rate of descent over a certain area it should be possible to work out a possible drop zone. Dr Mason said it seemed to have been visible until it was over the Firth of Clyde or even further north.

He said the meteorite's luminosity was caused by the enormous energy it built up as it passed through the sky before disappearing from view as it decelerated and free-fell to the ground.

"Some people who saw it said it turned night into day and caused the ground to light up," Dr Mason said. "There have also been reports of it breaking into fragments that faded out. We have to work out the 'end point', at which it became non-luminous. If that point was, say, 15 to 20 miles up, there is a chance it will have survived and if we can work out the latitude and longitude we may find a surviving fragment."

Although the meteorite was the size of a car when first seen, any remaining fragment would be a tenth of the original. "These 'fire ball' events are fairly rare," Dr Mason said. He emphasised that there was little point in people scouring the countryside for a piece of meteorite. "It would be very unlikely, unless someone had it fall through their greenhouse, that they would find it by looking casually."

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

£55

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
15 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister in which you asked for some information about UFOs. I have been asked to reply.

While the Ministry of Defence does receive some reports of UFO sightings, our only concern is to find out if they pose a threat to the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, weather balloons, satellites in orbit or satellite debris entering the atmosphere, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these. However, the Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence to support the existence of alien life, or to suggest that alien spacecraft have landed on the earth.

We do not release material from our files "en bloc", as our files are covered by the public records act, and stay closed for 30 years. However, I have attached a few examples of the sort of report we get, with the names and adresses of witnesses deleted. As you can see, the details we get are often fairly vague, describing lights or shapes in the sky, as opposed to "flying saucers". I have also attached a document known as the Halt Report, which relates to a famous UFO case from 1980. You will find much more information in the many books that have been written on the subject; any big library or bookshop should have some.

Given your strong interest in the subject, you might like to contact some of the UFO societies. I suggest the following groups:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Recycled Paper

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Finally, you asked what UFO reports the Americans are releasing. As you may know, the USA have a Freedom of Information Act, and I am aware that they get frequent requests for UFO material. This is an ongoing process, but if you want further details, I suggest you write to the US Embassy in London. The address is 24 Grosvenor Square, London, W1A 1AE.

I hope this information is helpful, and I wish you luck with your hobby.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Head of Sec (AS)

The attached letter which the Prime Minister has received has been acknowledged by 10 Downing Street and has been forwarded to this Department for official action.

a. No 10 have passed it to us for action as we see fit and you are asked to consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and to action accordingly.

or

b. No 10 have asked that a full reply be sent and you should know that the Prime Minister attaches importance to such replies being sent expeditiously.

2. Unless specifically asked to do so, there is no need for you to copy your replies to this office.

Section 40 [redacted]

for APS/Secretary of State

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

2 MOD
Misc
UFOs.

Dear Sir

RS/9

I am writing to see if it would be possible for you to send me any pieces of unclassified information on UFO's. And on recent sighting's of UFO's in Great Britain.
If this is possible I would be extremely grateful.
As I spend alot of my spare-time collecting and reading information on the UFO phenomena. I suppose you could call it my hobby.
This information would not be used for anything other than my own reference.
Any information you can send would be much appreciated.

P.S is it true that within the next few years the U.S.A are going to release all with held UFO data.
I will understand if you can not answer this question

Yours Sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

Age 15

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Sec (AS)1
14 SEP 1992
FILE

E34

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
14 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange object that you and other witnesses saw in the sky recently has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs, or satellite debris entering the atmosphere. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E33

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
11 September 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter dated 9 September in which you asked for copies of the UFO "close encounter" reports on our files. We have five reports that could be classified as close encounters of the third or fourth kind, and I have attached these as requested. As is usual when we release UFO reports, I have deleted personal information relating to the witnesses. The rest of the reports on our files refer to little more than lights or shapes seen in the sky.

With regard to the UFO sighting over Keynsham, I am afraid that I am unable to help; the telex to West Drayton would have come here, but our files are archived regularly, and then sent to the Public Record Office at Kew, where they are covered by the 30 year rule - remaining closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action. Essentially, the only accessible UFO reports will be those actually held in this office, and the earliest reports that we hold in telex form date from 1986. Even then, we would need a fairly precise date in order to release a sighting report. My only suggestion is that you try asking one of the UFO societies for help, to see if they have any reports from Keynsham during the period in question. I suggest the following groups:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this information is helpful, and I wish you luck with your investigations.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]
Air Staff 2
Ministry of Defence
White Hall
London

9 September 1992

Dear Sir,

Please could you send me copies of the small number of UFO Close Encounter reports that are contained in MOD files.

I undertake private research and details of the above would be very much appreciated.

During my Police Service in London I was furnished with information relating to a UFO incident over my home town of Keynsham (near Bristol, Avon) believed to have occurred in the early 1980s. A telex containing details of this incident (including power failure over Keynsham and effects on cows in the area) was apparently sent to an establishment in WestDrayton.

I have respected the source's wishes for the above incident to remain confidential but am obviously interested in obtaining further details if at all possible.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
11 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 September in which you asked for information on UFO sightings in the Hereford area around September 1978. I am afraid that I do not have any information on this, as our files are regularly archived and sent to the Public Record Office, where they are covered by the 30 year rule, which states that files generally remain closed from public viewing for 30 years after the last action was taken. We do have some statistical information on this period, and I can tell you that during 1978 there were 750 UFO reports submitted to the Ministry of Defence - the highest number of reports that we have on record for any one year. I have no details relating to the location or nature of these sightings.

You asked for details of two other cases; I do not have any information on the Brighton case, which is not one that I have heard about. As I am sure you are aware, the RAF Woodbridge case is well-known to ufologists, and BUFORA probably have more information on this case than we do! For example, I am aware that Jenny Randles wrote a book, entitled "Skycrash", about this case. All we have is a copy of the report submitted by Lt Col Charles Halt, the deputy base commander at RAF Woodbridge, and I have attached a copy of this report for you.

Good luck with your investigations.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 81ST COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (USAFE)
APO NEW YORK 09755

REPLY TO ATTN OF: CD

13 Jan 81

SUBJECT: Unexplained Lights

TO: RAF/CC

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

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

3. Later in the night a red sun-like light was seen through the trees. It moved about and pulsed. At one point it appeared to throw off glowing particles and then broke into five separate white objects and then disappeared. Immediately thereafter, three star-like objects were noticed in the sky, two objects to the north and one to the south, all of which were about 10^{0} off the horizon. The objects moved rapidly in sharp angular movements and displayed red, green and blue lights. The objects to the north appeared to be elliptical through an 8-12 power lens. They then turned to full circles. The objects to the north remained in the sky for an hour or more. The object to the south was visible for two or three hours and beamed down a stream of light from time to time. Numerous individuals, including the undersigned, witnessed the activities in paragraphs 2 and 3.

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

Section 40 [redacted]

5/Sept/I992

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Air Staff 2
Room Section 40
Horse Guards Av

Dear sir/madam,

My name is Section 40 [redacted] I am a Provisional Accredited Investigator for BUFORA (the British UFO Research Association Ltd.).

The main reason for this letter is to request information that might help me in a case I am investigating. The information I need is any rep rts of sightings in the Hereford area around September I978. The reason for this request is because I am having a few problems Verifying my witnesses report because of the age on the case.

Also could you please, if at all possible, send me copys of reports on the following cases:-
I) May 5 I955 near Brighton (CRASH CASE)
2) December 29/30 I980 RAF BASE Woodbridge (STRANGE LIGHTS)

If, for any reason, you can not send me details of these cases could you please tell me of the best way to obtaining clearance for getting them.

Yours thankfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

(BUFORA No. 3435)

E31

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 9 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange lights that you saw in the sky recently has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs, or satellite debris entering the atmosphere. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

E30

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
4 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 31 August, in which you asked for my comments on a UFO sighting that you are investigating, under your reference PHILCASE.075.

I have checked our own files but can confirm that we have not received any reports that would tie in with what was seen.

While I am often able to suggest a possible explanation for UFO sightings, I am afraid that nothing springs to mind on this occasion. Your best hope of resolving this case would seem to be to find other witnesses to the sighting - from the information given in Section D, Point 9 of the report I would assume that what was seen was very large.

Good luck with the investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40
[redacted]

31-8-92

Our ref: Section 40 075

Section 40 [redacted]
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a,
M.O.D.,
Room Section 40
Main Building,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A-2HB.

Dear Sir,

Re: enclosed UFO report [for your file], referenced above and submitted for your inspection and possible comment.

It would be most helpful to me if you could indicate whether or not your office received any contemporaneous UFO reports from the area in question.

Of course, it is taken as read that your jurisdiction vis-a-vis the UFO controversy is strictly confined within defence parameters, but a simple listing of any incoming reports received by your office would suffice in the pursuance of my enquiries.

Looking forward to your anticipated response.

Yours faithfully,

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]
Investigator,
Section 40

COPY : MOD

UFO SIGHTING QUESTIONNAIRE (STANDARD)

Interrupted TV Viewing

.....

CASE SUMMARY TO BE FILLED IN BY THE INVESTIGATOR ONLY:-

BUFORA REFERENCE NUMBER:

INVESTIGATOR REFERENCE NUMBER: Section 40 .075

INVESTIGATION COMPLETE: y/n/on-going: on-going

INVESTIGATOR(s): Section 40

CLASSIFICATION USING VALLEE SYSTEM (1990) [IF POSSIBLE]: FB2-301

LOCATION(S) USING O.S. GRID REFERENCE IF POSSIBLE:

OBSERVATION DATE(S): 17-7-92

OBSERVATION TIMES [GMT/BST/LOCAL] USING 24-HOUR SYSTEM: 20.55 bst

EVALUATOR(s):

EVALUATION: indeterminate

****

THIS SECTION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS TO BE FILLED IN BY THE WITNESS:-

SECTION A - BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY:-

FULL NAME*: Section 40

*** EVEN IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PUBLICISED YOUR NAME THIS REPORT WILL BE TREATED IN CONFIDENCE BY BUFORA LTD.**

DATE OF BIRTH.: Section 40

ADDRESS : Section 40

TELEPHONE NUMBER: not given

RECENT OCCUPATION: Section 40

PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL OR ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS (IF ANY): none

SPECIAL INTERESTS/HOBBIES: Section 40

WITNESS' SIGNATURE: _given_ _, TODAY'S DATE: 18-8-92

The British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) is dedicated to the scientific study of the UFO phenomenon. All BUFORA investigators are bound by a strict code of practice which requires them to conduct all investigations in a professional manner and to respect the anonymity of the witnesses.

A copy of the Code of Practice can be obtained on request from BUFORA' office:-

BUFORA Ltd., Section 40 [redacted]
Section 40 [redacted]

BUFORA Ltd. is also registered under the Data Protection Act - Registration Number: F0779204

.....

SECTION B: WRITTEN ACCOUNT

PLEASE WRITE AN ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU (USE ADDITION SHEETS IF NECESSARY):-

I was watching TV when I turned my head to look out of the window which have net curtains only halfway up. Also, I was wearing glasses so had a clear view of the moving object. I first saw the circle & top part; both were outstanding & I could see dark markings on the top. I got up quickly, stood in front of the window for several seconds looking at it [the object]. By then, it had moved & I saw the complete outline. It looked so clear-cut & perfect & a privilege to see. Suddenly, it took off (could have done a twirl?) as there was some movement. I saw the whole thing completely & it reminded me of a flying saucer that I had seen in an American science-fiction film that was shown on TV a while ago. By now, it was moving away, the sun shone through the clouds onto it; that's when I saw the dark (black) marks & steel colour. Then it disappeared into cloud a few seconds after an aeroplane appeared turning left.

My sister was with me & saw my reaction.

.....

SECTION C:OBJECT CHARACTERISTICS

1) Please complete the following:-

a) NUMBER OF OBJECT(S) SEEN: 1

b) COLOUR(S) " " " : steel & black

c) SOUND " " " : none

d) SMELL " " " : none

f) CLARITY(*) " " " : clearly

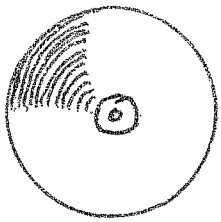
g) BRIGHTNESS(+)" " " : none

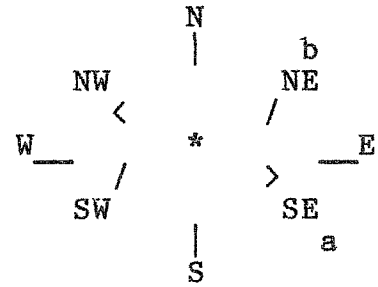
$ if other than a point source of light.

*** sharpness of the object's outline.**

+(IF ANY) COMPARED TO, STAR, MOON, TORCH, ARC-LAMP OR SUN ETC.

PLEASE USE THIS SPACE TO MAKE A SKETCH OF THE OBJECT YOU SAW:-





Imagine yourself in the middle of this compass dial. Write 'A' on the on the dial where you first saw the object, & a 'B' where the object was last seen.

SECTION D: THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OBSERVATION

2) TIME WHEN THE OBJECT(S) WAS FIRST SEEN: 20.55

3) DURATION OF OBSERVATION (ESTIMATE IF UNSURE):-

DURATION MORE THAN: a few seconds

DURATION LESS THAN:

4) DATE OF OBSERVATION: 17-7-92

5) WHERE WERE YOU AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT? (NEAREST STREET, DISTRICT & MAIN TOWN) at home

6) WHAT FIRST BROUGHT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE OBJECT(S) SEEN AND WHERE WAS IT (THEY) LOCATED?: looking out of the window at sky

7) HOW DID THE OBJECT(S) DISAPPEAR FROM VIEW? : into a cloud

8) IF ESTIMATES ARE GIVEN IN QUESTIONS 2, 3 AND 5, HOW DID YOU GAUGE THE TIME? (WATCH, CLOCK TOWER OR RADIO ETC.): clock

9) BY HOLDING ONE OF THESE FAMILIAR ITEMS AT ARM'S LENGTH, WHICH ONE, IN YOUR ESTIMATION, WOULD JUST COVER THE OBJECT(S) YOU SAW (CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE): pin-head, pea, 1p piece, 2p piece, golf-ball, tennis-ball, other : dinner plate

10) WAS THE OBJECT PHOTOGRAPHED, FILMED OR VIDEO RECORDED? (IF YES, GIVE DETAILS): no

11) WERE THERE ANY OTHER WITNESSES TO THE OBJECT(S) YOU SAW? (IF YES, GIVE NAMES,ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS WHERE POSSIBLE): n - my sister was in the room with me and saw my reaction, [but no] she did not see the object

''''''

CIRCLE ALL APPROPRIATE RESPONSE:-

i) CLARITY OF THE ATMOSPHERE: clear, hazy, foggy: clear

ii) CLOUD COVER: none, quarter, half, three-quarter, total: not sure

iii) ATMOSPHERIC TEMPERATURE: freezing, cold, cool, mild, warm, hot: warm

iv) PRECIPITATION: dry, rain, snow, hail, lightning, other: dry

v) WIND STRENGTH: still, breeze, strong wind, gale-force: not sure

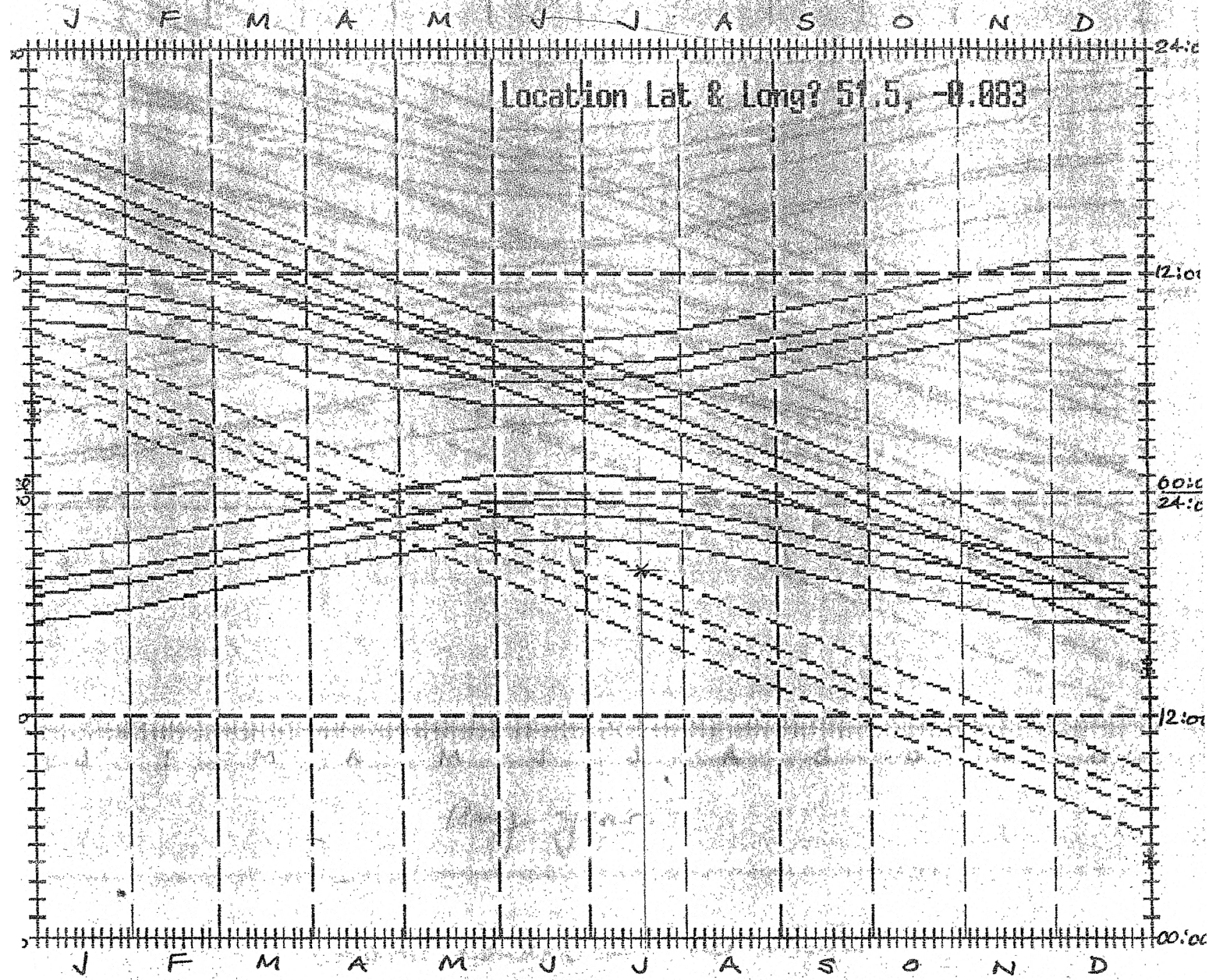
vi) VISIBLE ASTRONOMICAL OBJECTS: stars, moon, sun, Aurora Borealis, shooting stars: sun

-END-

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Now please return it to your local investigator.

If you require guidance in answering any of the questions contained in this questionnaire, please contact your investigator.

IDENTIFIED ORBITAL TRACKS CLOSEST TO CENTRAL LONDON



Any year.

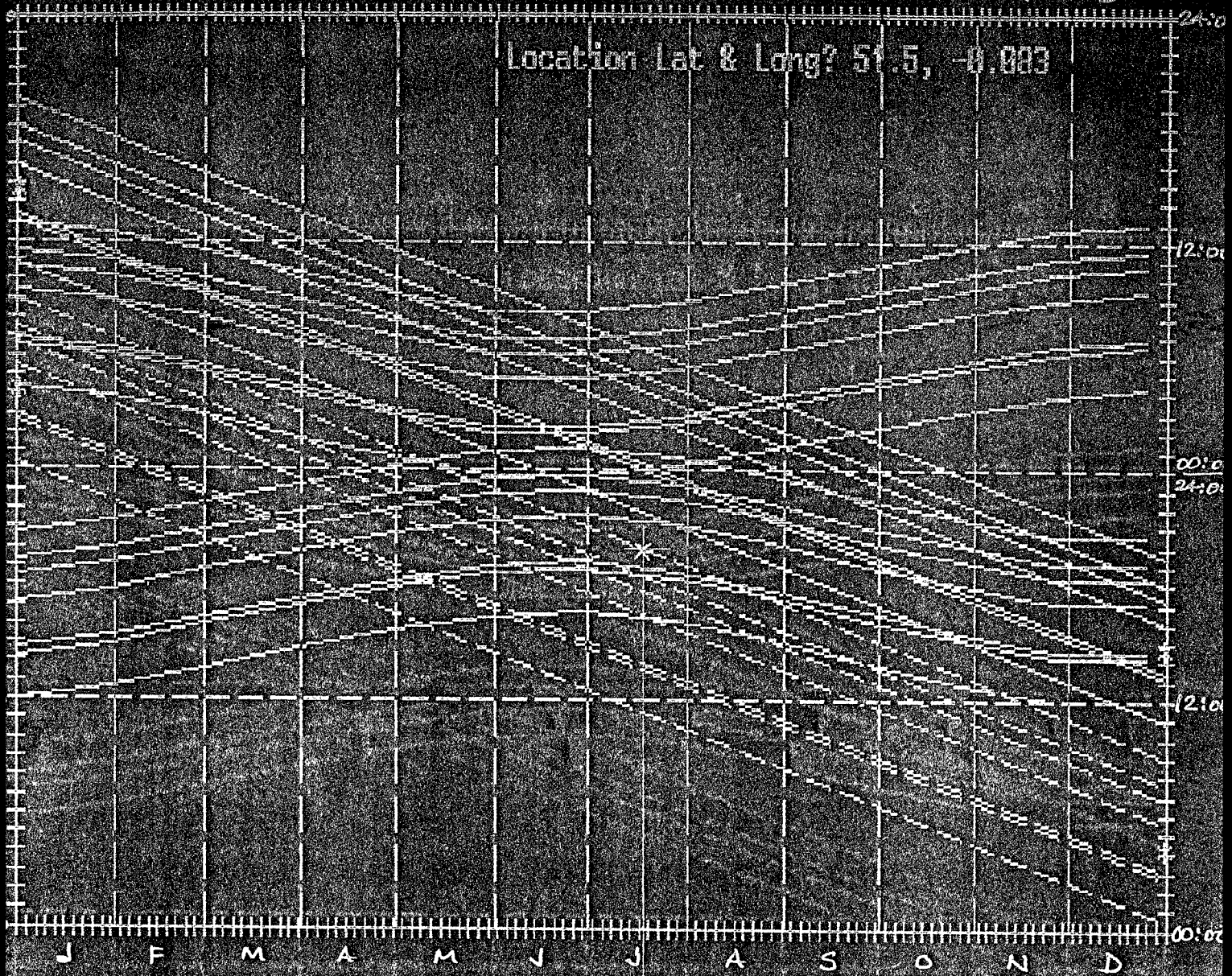
Central London — Most likely tracks.

© Section 40 August, 1992.

* all times in GMT.

curved lines relate to sunset/sunrise times

× marks the Selhurst event.



Any year.

Central London — All tracks

© Section 40
August, 1992

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
1 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange lights that you and other witnesses saw in the sky recently has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lighting and fireballs. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E28

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 1 September 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange objects that you and other witnesses saw in the sky on 20 August has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off clouds, ball lighting and fireballs. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

(A selective exception to the above ... Exodus, 12–29 ref. Passover.)

Postscript to page 91 ... 5th August 1992, 9.30 pm. Probe/sphere.

Whilst watching the end of the television news programme, I noticed a miniature probe/sphere, sizewise approx. 6 inches in diameter, colour the same as mentioned on page 91, emerging from the trees and passing west to east, travelling approx. 3 mph and roughly 15 feet or so above the surface of the lawn.

We had a couple of children camping at the end of the lawn at the time, and naturally kids being kids, I thought they were 'Larkin' about', or if they weren't, they could have been in danger, as the probe passed over their tent. But after checking, all was quiet on 'the Western Front' which again goes to prove that whatever they are, they don't take much notice of us, (see page 91).

So what have we got on probes/spheres ... we've got a 5-footer deflating into a 6-incher ... giving credence to my belief that they are simply intelligently controlled flying 'organic waste disposal units' or 'crap containers'. They are 'offloaded at the heads/sources of our streams' which will, down the stream's course, cleanse and purify whatever's been dumped, and if the system is 'overloaded', the stream is zapped by the blue beam mentioned on page 34 which 'knocks out all those nasties'. Simple isn't it? And they don't pay water or household rates. It's not fair is it?

Never overlook the obvious.

EZ7

Section 40

Secretariat (Air Staff)2a,
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall. SW1A 2HB

Section 40

27 th. Aug.1992.

Dear Section 40

I enclose the attached Gummed slip to 'Stick' onto your copy of page 92, of the short book 80 UFOs etc.

I know'officially'that the MOD of not only the UK , but most of the rest of the world Down grade most sightings, but I do suggest that..... Should anything show up on radar, the majority of sightings, , and most of the Aircraft Chases will be in response to these Flying 'S..t containers' and not UFOs as such.

You must be aware of George Adamski's photo of a so called UFO. (USA) ,well,up until a short time ago, I did believ e what the establishment conveyed , that it was a hoax, merely a lamp shade with three bulbs. ...however , with what has been seen 'Up here' by me and others, going on Numbers of spheres and colours, we have three spheres, Adamski had three unexplained orbs under the 'Craft, if they are containers,and not light bulbs or landing gear, then we are all in a'different Ball Game' and someone had better sit up and listen.

If anything else crops up in due course ,and its relevent I'll inform, meanwhile my I remain,

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E26

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
27 August 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Thank you for your letter dated 25 August, on the subject of UFOs. You mentioned a letter that you wrote on 20 February, and I checked to see whether I had received it. I had, and in fact sent a reply on 25 February. This letter has obviously gone astray somewhere along the line.

You asked how many sightings of UFOs were reported to the MoD during 1990 and 1991. The figures are 209 and 117 respectively.

With regard to the sighting over Anglesey on 3 February 1977, I am unable to help. Although we are able to answer questions on specific sightings, we no longer hold files for 1977, as cupboard space dictates that we have to archive files frequently, for ultimate retention at the Public Record Office, where they are covered by the 30 year rule. This means that the only available files are those held in this office, and date from around 1985.

Perhaps you might try asking one of the UFO groups, in case they have this case on their database, and are able to help. If you wish to take up this suggestion, I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

M.O.D.
Room Section 40
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB.

Section 40 [redacted]

Dear Section 40 [redacted] 25.8.1992

With reference to my last letter I sent to you on 20,February 1992. Please correct me if I am wrong, but I have not received a reply, so may I request again for the following information.
How many reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) did the MOD. receive in 1990 and 1991.

Also,can you tell me anything about a UFO sighting over Rhos Y Bol Anglesey Wales reported on 3rd.February 1977.

Section 40 [redacted] of this department back in 1990,very kindly explained to me,that you are able to answer specific queries about particular incidents which have occured recently.
I lookforward to your repply.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
26 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange lights that you saw in the sky last night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atomsphere, ball lighting, fireballs and meteorites. I accept, however, that some sightings will defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some further thoughts, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no Section 40

Yours sincerely

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

F24

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date 26 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the light that you saw in the sky on the night of Sunday 16 August has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings.

If you have not already seen the media coverage of this, you may be interested to know that hundreds of people reported having seen something similar, and reports were received from a wide range of areas, including Bristol, Wales, St Helens, Manchester and Wigan. From the descriptions given, some sort of fireball seems to be the most likely explanation.

The British Astronomical Association are trying to plot the course of the fireball over the country, in an attempt to locate any fragment that came to earth. Whilst most such objects would burn up in the atmosphere, there is a chance - especially with a large object - that part of it would survive. The British Astronomical Association will therefore be very keen to hear from you. Their address is as follows:

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I am also aware that the UFO societies received many calls on this, and they will also be interested to hear from you. If you wish to contact them, the details are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Yours sincerely

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
26 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister on the subject of UFOs. I have been asked to reply.

While the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings, our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, kites, helium balloons, weather ballons, unusual cloud formations, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atomsphere, ball lighting, fireballs and meteorites.

I would like to assure you that there is no question of our attempting to debunk any incident, nor are we trying in any way to obscure the truth about UFOs from the general public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any positive evidence to support the existance of alien life, or to suggest that alien spacecraft have landed on the earth.

Given your interest in this subject, you might like to contact some of the civilian organisations currently engaged in study of the UFO phenomenon. They are always keen to hear from enthusiasts, and will clearly have their own ideas about the UFO phenomenon. I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

. Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Section 40

Head of Secretariat

/ The attached letter which the Prime Minister has received has been acknowledged by 10 Downing Street and has been forwarded to this Department for official action.

a. No 10 have passed it to us for action as we see fit and you are asked to consider whether there is anything which can usefully be said to the correspondent and to action accordingly.

or

b. No 10 have asked that a full reply be sent and you should know that the Prime Minister attaches importance to such replies being sent expeditiously.

2. Unless specifically asked to do so, there is no need for you to copy your replies to this office.

26 AUG 1992

FILE

Section 40

for APS/Secretary of State

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

2
Mod
D

Dear Mr Major

I would like to know what the goverments feelings are on U.F.O.s, I realise you are a busy man, but as I am sure you realise, U.F.O.s are not a joke and I wish the M.O.D. would stop debunking perfectly good clear sightings, I'm sure you agree that these craft exist and that they have landed on British soil. I hope to hear a reply soon, if you cannot answer my questions, could you please pass this letter to somebody who can

Thank You

Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E22

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
26 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the phenomenon in the sky that you witnessed on the night of Friday 14 August has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings.

From the description of what was seen, and from comparing this with other reports that we have received, it seems most likely that what you saw was powerful searchlights reflecting off clouds. This would give the impression of circles of light moving rapidly around the sky. I understand that there was a music festival in Victoria Park, Bath, over the weekend, and that the searchlights were tested in the run-up to this.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

E21

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
26 August 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Your report concerning the phenomenon in the sky that you witnessed on the night of Friday 14 August has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings.

From the description of what was seen, and from comparing this with other reports that we have received, it seems most likely that what you saw was powerful searchlights reflecting off clouds. This would give the impression of circles of light moving rapidly around the sky. I understand that there was a music festival in Victoria Park, Bath, over the weekend, and that the searchlights were tested in the run-up to this.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

E20

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
24 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter dated 18 August, in which you asked for some information about UFO sightings in the Southwest, especially in Somerset. You mentioned having made a similar request about three months ago, but I am afraid this must have gone astray, as it was not received here.

There is little that I can offer by way of assistance, because UFO sightings are not generally recorded by area, as our involvement in the subject is so limited. We do not have the resources to undertake a comprehensive breakdown, but from a very general attempt that I made to plot out the location of UFO sightings reported to us over the past three years, I can say that about a dozen reports per year were made from the Southwest, of which perhaps two or three have been from Somerset.

I do not know how closely you work with the national UFO groups, but it might be worth your asking BUFORA, Contact International and Quest International for some assistance. In case you do not have the addresses, they are as follows:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

DEPARTMENT:AIRSTAFF 2A
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING
WHITEHALL
LONDON
SW1A 2HB

DATE;18/8/92

Dear Section 40

I am writing to you as i require information for a research project that i am carrying out on behalf of MUFORA (the manchester ufo research association).

The project concerns the mapping (or trying to)of the ufo phenomenon across the county from 1970 onwards.Me and a colleague have written before (roughly 3 months ago) however we have (as yet) not received a reply.I realize that your time must be pressing but i would be very greatful if you could help with a specific area that we are having a little difficulty in finding cases for.

The area that we are concerned with at present is the southwest particularly the somerset area,we are having some difficulty in discovering cases from this area particularly from the early 1970s.If you can help in any way it would be a great help to myself and my colleague in our quest in trying to at least find some kind of pattern,or patterns to the phenomenon.

I have enclosed a stamped addressed envelope for your convenience in the hope that this may encourage a positive response,again thankyou for any time you may take in helping me.

yours sincerely

Section 40 [redacted]

[redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E19

Original letter returned - incorrect address

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
18 August 1992

Dear Section 40 ,

Your report concerning the phenomenon in the sky that you witnessed last Sunday night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. I understand that you were not making a UFO report, and believed the object to be either a satellite or a meteorite burning up as it entered the atmosphere. You may be interested to hear that similar reports to yours were made by many other people, from a wide range of areas, including St Helens, Manchester, Wigan, and various parts of North Wales. From the descriptions given, a meteorite or fireball does seem to be the most likely explanation.

I know that the civilian UFO organisations have taken many calls on this phenomenon, and if you are interested, I am sure they will be keen to hear from you. Given the descriptions that I have heard, I suspect that they may come to the same conclusion as you about what was seen. If you wish to take up this idea, then I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

E18

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
18 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange lights in the sky that you witnessed last Sunday night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include such things as aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or airships illuminated from the inside. One other possibility would be powerful searchlights reflecting off clouds. These are used increasingly at outdoor events, and they do rotate in a way that would seem to be consistent with what you saw.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may have some other ideas, and may be able to tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this idea, then I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
18 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report concerning the strange lights in the sky that you witnessed last Sunday night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include such things as aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or airships illuminated from the inside. One other possibility would be powerful searchlights reflecting off clouds. These are used increasingly at outdoor events, and they do rotate in a way that would seem to be consistent with what you saw.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may have some other ideas, and may be able to tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this idea, then I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E16

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
17 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange light in the sky that you witnessed last night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include such things as fireballs, ball lightning, aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, or airships illuminated from the inside. However, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this idea, then I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

ycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

E15/1

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Lt Col Section 40
Assistant Air Attache
United States Embassy
24 Grosvenor Square
London
W1A 1AE

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
17 August 1992

Dear Lt Col Section 40

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Our section receives details of Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) sightings within the UK, and also handle questions about the Government's policy on this subject.

I would be grateful if you would put me in touch with the appropriate Department in the US that deals with this matter, as I hope to liaise with them and exchange information on UFO sightings, policy and other related matters.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E15
+1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
17 August 1992

Dear Section 40

When we spoke earlier today I promised to write to you, setting out the position of the Ministry of Defence with regard to UFOs, and detailing other related information that you may find useful. Hopefully you will be able to draw upon the information in this letter when making your documentary.

Although the Ministry of Defence does receive and co-ordinate reports of UFO sightings, our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

Since our interest in UFOs is limited to possible defence implications, we do not carry out studies into the UFO phenomenon, nor do we have the resources to undertake any in-depth investigations. Defence funds are fully committed to maintaining the security of the UK and meeting our responsibilities to allies and dependents. This being so, we could not justify the use of defence funds on scientific investigations, unless a threat to the security of the UK had been identified.

It is clear from the reports we receive that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky. However, we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. Some of the possibile explanations include aircraft lights or aircraft seen from unusual angles, satellites in orbit or satellite debris re-entering the atmosphere, high altitude kites, helium balloons, weather balloons, searchlights or lasers reflecting off clouds, ball lightning, fireballs and meteorites. As you are also doubtless aware, some reports turn out to be hoaxes. Having said this, we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

Despite some of the stories that circulate among ufologists, there is no question of attempting to cover up any incidents, nor are we trying in any way to obscure the truth about UFOs from the public. The Ministry of Defence does not possess any evidence which supports the existance of alien life, or suggests that extraterrestrial spacecraft have ever visited the earth.

The Ministry of Defence does not release material on the subject "en bloc", because, as is the case with all government departments, all Ministry of Defence files are subject to the public records act, and generally remain closed from

Recycled Paper

public viewing for 30 years after the last action has been taken. Prior to 1967 all UFO files were routinely destroyed, although you may find a few at the Public Record Office.

You may be interested to know the numbers of UFO sightings reported to the Ministry of Defence in recent years; the figures are as follows:

1978 - 750
1979 - 550
1980 - 350
1981 - 600
1982 - 250
1983 - 390
1984 - 214
1985 - 177
1986 - 120
1987 - 150
1988 - 397
1989 - 258
1990 - 209
1991 - 117

So far this year we have received around 70 sightings, although at least a dozen of these were almost certainly sightings of an airship - illuminated from the inside - which was flying over London a lot during February and March. I saw this myself, and can understand how, from a distance, this generated reports of a bright cigar-shaped UFO travelling slowly over London. I mention this as a useful example of how an explanation can often be found for an apparently quite exotic UFO report. I suspect that the more exotic "close encounter" reports are made to the UFO groups such as BUFORA, and as I mentioned, reports made to us tend to be rather mundane. As promised, I have attached a couple of examples, with the names and addresses of witnesses deleted.

As we discussed, it is worth noting that there are a lot of supposedly official UFO documents in circulation that are turning out to be fakes.

I hope this is helpful, and I should like to wish you the best of luck with your documentary. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40

bufora

British UFO Research Association

Section 40 [redacted]

The Ministry of Defence
Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A
Room Section 40
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
f.a.o. Section 40 [redacted]

Tel. Section 40 [redacted]

Date: 13th August 1992

Dear Section 40 [redacted]

Thank you for your letters of 22nd July and 27th July sent to our address in Burgess Hill, these have been forwarded on to me. Could I ask you to send future correspondences to the above address as it is now our administration office.

I wanted to write to thank you for your very helpful letters and the copies of the contact reports you forwarded. I wondered what replies the Ministry of Defence gives people writing these kinds of letters and if you can let me have abridged examples that would be useful. Thank you also for recommending such reporters to ourselves, we do our best to meet the needs of such people as far as is possible.

Could you let me know why files prior to 1967 were destroyed; was this a specific instruction relating to UFO files or a general policy of the Ministry at that time?

There are a number of questions, mostly to do with administration, that I would like to discuss with you; would it be possible to contact me at the address, telephone number or fax if you would be agreeable to a meeting or perhaps a lunch.

Thanking you once again,

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Section 40

Section 40

Had a chat with Section 40 re the points in this letter, and agreed to meet him on 23rd September.

Section 40

18/8

E14

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
11 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report concerning the strange ball of flame that you witnessed last week has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include such things as fireballs, flares, fireworks and ball lightning, although we accept that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. I know that they will be particularly interested if there are marks that would indicate that an object of some sort has landed. If you wish to take up this idea, then I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

ecycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Again, if there is some sort of mark indicating where the object landed, the Centre for Crop Circle Studies may well be interested. They can be contacted at the following address:

Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E13

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
7 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report of a strange object in the sky last night has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, satellites, ball lightning, meteorites, or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this idea, then I would suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E12

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
6 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report of a strange object in the sky three nights ago has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, satellites, ball lightning, meteorites, or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this suggestion, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
6 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report of a strange object in the sky two nights ago has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, satellites, ball lightning, meteorites, or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who may be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this suggestion, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International

[redacted]

Tel no. [redacted]

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E10

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3
Date
5 August 1992

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter dated 30 July concerning your research and theories on the subject of UFOs. Your letter has been passed to this office as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings.

The role of the Ministry of Defence with regard to UFOs is very limited, but you may wish to get in touch with the various UFO groups in this country who are dedicated to full investigation of the phenomenon. If you wish to take up this idea I would suggest the following organisations:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Quest International
Section 40

I hope this information is of use to you, and I wish you luck in your research.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

①

Section 40 [redacted]

copy to
Ministry of Defence
R.A.F dept.

So 1 8 GH.
30/JULY/1992.

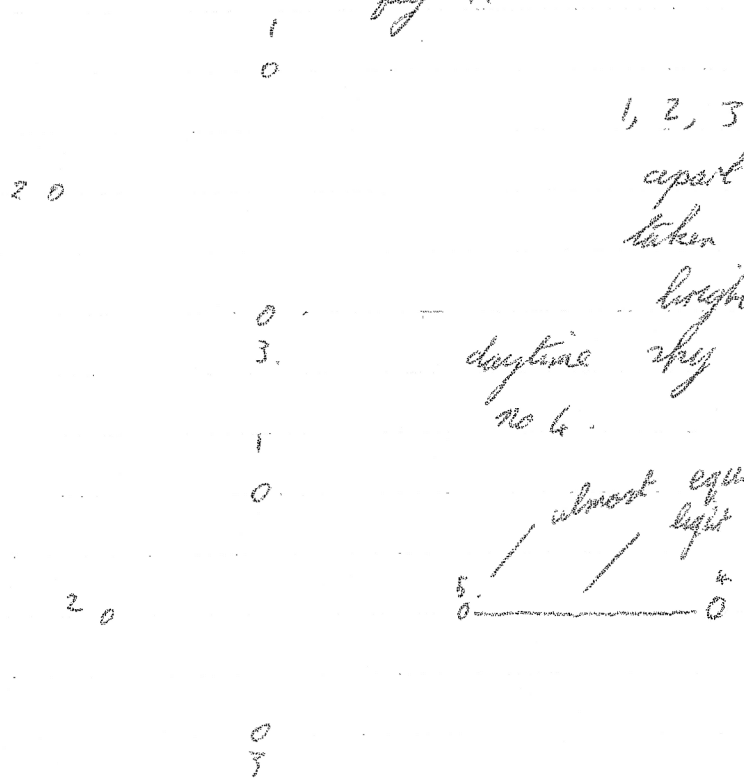
Dear Sir

I research U.F.O. information in as much, as that information which is published, usually in paperback american investigative reporter type.

So my information is limited as I have stuck to a few books (3 or 4) for 10 years or so, but I also saw a sighting on film which was shown on T.V. news,

The sighting happened in this country over the wash, four lights in the daytime sky. I helive one theory was helicopters refulling (crap).

fig 1.



1, 2, 3 are equal distances apart (angle of camera lens taken into account).

bright lights against a daytime sky background. enter no 4.

almost equal when film ends.

light track

This is a layered diamond computer code mostly in picture form. With modules other sightings that are also codes which key to this one.
The master code gives a new level of physics and breaks existing laws, it gives a power unit unfueled and "clean".
It also gives the layout of groups within space and whose space is who's. Also there are economic weapons as well as a technological level which will give more weapons.
This worried me as it seemed to not only give a way of saving this earth ecologically, but also always weapons.
So on deeper and deeper investigation I found that tactics were given in "modules" (other sightings) as well as specific course and direction to a given named area of space and a named aggressor.
The codes are like an intrusion into and aswell as another intrusion.
There are quite a few groups involved it appears that groups 1, 2 5 are inviting a fourth to a joint alliance on an equal footing.
These are action codes and it seems that their ships fly extremely fast and not in the normal third dimension so radio is a) too slow b) a security risk so c) a system of flag signals using light and formation flying and an understanding that great minds

think alike at their level of understanding and intelligence this works.

To clarify point b). security a language is only a code so it can be overheard, if you existed at a level of technical advancement that planets could be destroyed mined out used as so much "commercial stuff" rather than a living planet. Would you advertise your position and tell everyone where you were. In our case all I can say is 'oops'!

S.E.T.I. is to launch later this year but it is scientists that are, reasoning radio signals, civilisations advertising their positions TACTICALLY they live in cloud cuckoo land.

The creatures seen in Harrisonville 1970's and reported several times are the aggressors.

When breaking this code remember it is layered all layers cross reference and all modules also cross reference.

There are two main groups communicating one it is like me to you, no difference in terminology or understanding the other group is like speaking german with english grammer.

This letter is infomation for who ever you have studying this problem I have broken the codes completly and can now read any code like a book. This is one reason why I have only studied a few modules as to

overload ones mental capabilities is in this game very dangerous.

A few points to remember the codes are from past to present to future. The master code is foreverer you will always be able to cross referance the diamond.

You the white physcology are no 4 to point 5 being invited in.

The other groups are refered to as blue red and green.

If your co-breaking capabilities are not able to cope with all of the layers which are not at all obvious, the actions of the code are themselves layered.

You have aprox ± 15 years to develop your defences there is a full broad plan within the code if studied and followed you will get away with hardly a scratch.

Put a foot wrong, go it alone without the codes and you don't stand a chance. You will still be trying to get something on that radio.

There is only one call due and that is blue group call sign saphire. your call sign white gem.

Yours faithfully

Section 40 [redacted]

P.S. As usual I wouldn't expect a reply but it would be nice to know that the letter has been read after 10 years of research and silence.

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E9

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
5 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Thank you for your letter dated 3 August. I am glad you found the information I sent useful.

I would just like to reassure you that I did not circulate your book outside this office, and any increase that you are seeing in the amount of military flying is simply due to the generally higher level of flying undertaken during the summer months.

Once again, good luck with your endeavours.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

Section 40

Secretariat.(air Staff).2a.

Room Section 40

Ministry Of Defence,

Main Whitehall Building,

London. SW1A 2HB.

Section 40

3 rd.Aug.1992.

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of the 17 th. June, and thank you for the information.

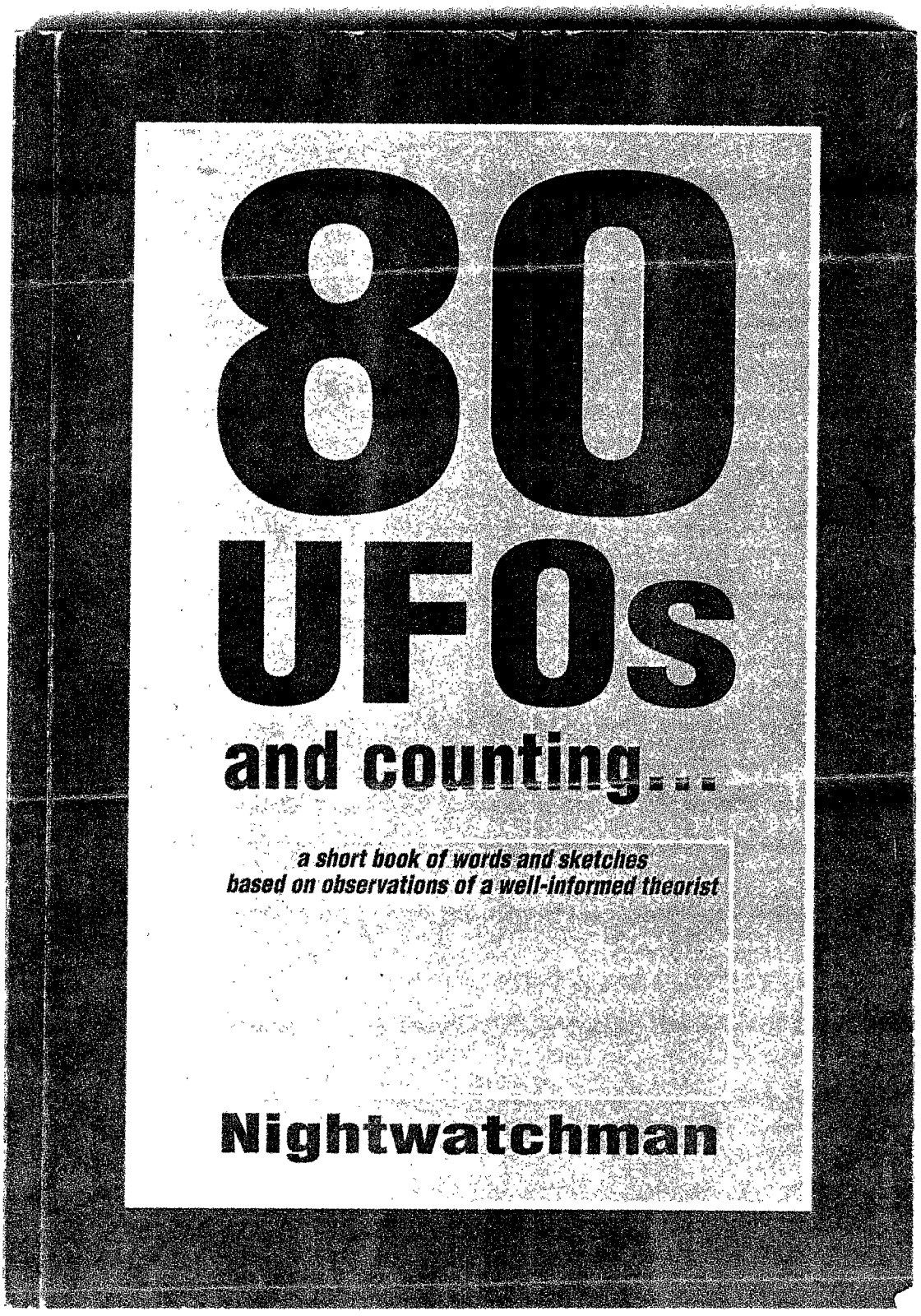
I enclose a Copy of page 78, which I was asked to 'Enlarge on' by a critic, who said the Paragraph and chapter endd too abruptly,initially.

I was whistling through pages of several books, completely unrelated to UFOs, and you know how it is,Whilst relaxing over a pint of beer on an evening??, Eureka etc,.it all starts to make sense, and fit together,like jigsaw,where one is drip fed with the pieces.

I dont know if anyone at MoD has been redding extracts from the book,only there seems to have been more Sortees than usual on an evening over my'patch!,if they dont believe in'you know whats' tell them to stop wasting tax payers money 'ChasingMoonbeams', if they do believe,tell 'Em to get their 'hands down'and give us a chance.

Yours Sincerely

Section 40


80
UFOs
and counting...
a short book of words and sketches
based on observations of a well-informed theorist
Nightwatchman

do have this completely unbelievable (as far as our knowledge is concerned) scenario to work in. Where do they go for a holiday, if Earth is their workplace. Well, one thing they do like is to be a set of voyeurs, so when you are next sun-bathing in the buff (nude) and you think no-one can see you, do not get up too abruptly, you might bump your head.

The only loosely termed evidence that seems to make any sense at all is where the local populations have seen their Giants or Gods ... beings, well, as far as I can make out the average height of mankind in the good old days seems to have been around four feet six inches (3,000–2,000 B.C.) so if they (or even us for that matter) ever came eyeball to crotch (or belly button) to one of these beings, I reckon we'd all have a healthy respect for them, wouldn't we? And call 'em sir.

If you would care to look into the odd few myths and legends re. Babylonian, Greek, Equadorian and Peruvian to take but a few examples, there seems to be a general trend for the 'Escapades' of the 'Lads who are Off-Duty' or have gone AWOL ... and that is, that, they could be found, fighting like 'Kilkenny Cats', playing very competitive 'games', enjoying the 'pleasures of the flesh' and on the odd occasion (dictionaries out) pederastically debauching their way around the planet. Mind you the latter mentioned activity generally seemed to incur the wrath of the 'Boss' who, taking a pretty dim view, sent in the Military Police, or the equivalent, and had a 'carve up'. (It must take about twice as long to dig a grave for an eight to ten footer as it does for a four to five.)

Mind you, having a 'carve up' to set an example for the local population obviously didn't work; we humans are pretty fast at learning and if it's really naughty, we're going to revel in it. Can't get enough of it can we?

Postscript to page 79 Mullucks – see also invisibility when overhead.

I have read that in July 1851 in the San Francisco area; May and August 1869 in the Santa Clara and Los Nitos areas in California ... March 1876 in Olympian Springs, Bath County, Kentucky, and as recently as August 1968 north west of Sao Paulo, Brazil my Beasties seem to have had 'technical problems', (Showers), Falls of Blood and Tissue, that on 'taste' resembled rich Venison. (Explorers to Borneo at the beginning of the century also tasted something like rich venison, and that was of course 'Long Pig'.) There was no other debris and the days seemed to be sunny and clear.

E8

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
5 August 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report of a strange object in the sky yesterday has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, ball lightning or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who might be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to take up this suggestion, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E7

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
28 July 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report of a strange object in the sky last week has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft or aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, ball lightning or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who might be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. I note that you have taken a video of this object; very few UFO sightings have been captured on video, and the UFO groups will be very interested in seeing viewing your tape. Although our involvement in the subject of UFOs is limited, and we could not devote time and resources to scientific analysis of your video, we would be happy to have a look at it at some stage, and tell you what we think. I suspect that the UFO organisations will be able to arrange a full analysis, and you may wish to contact them in the first instance. If you wish to take up this suggestion, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Recycled Paper

Quest International (UK)

Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

E6

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
28 July 1992

Dear Section 40,

Your report of some strange lights in the sky last week has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, ball lightning or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who might be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to do this, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Quest International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
28 July 1992

Dear Section 40

Your report of some strange objects in the sky last weekend has been passed to this office, as we receive and co-ordinate some reports of UFO sightings. Our sole concern is to establish whether or not they pose a threat to the security of the United Kingdom. Unless we judge that they do, and this has not been the case so far, we do not attempt to investigate further, or to identify whatever might have been seen.

It is clear from the reports that we see that there are many strange things to be seen in the sky, although we believe that explanations could be found for most of them. The possibilities that spring to mind include aircraft lights seen from unusual angles, lasers or searchlights reflecting off low clouds, ball lightning or fireballs. I accept, however, that there will always be some sightings that defy explanation, and we have an open mind on these.

You might like to contact one of the many civilian UFO organisations, who might be able to offer some advice, or tie in your sighting with others that they may have received. If you wish to do this, then may I suggest the following societies:

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

Contact International (UK)
Section 40

Quest International (UK)
Section 40

Tel no. Section 40

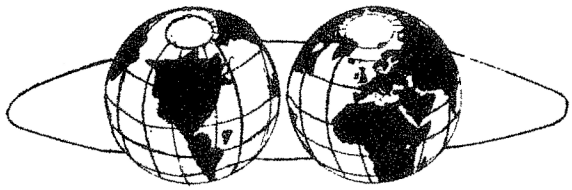
I hope this is helpful.

Yours Sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

CONTACT INTERNATIONAL [U.K.]



A Worldwide Association of Objective UFO Researchers

Headquarters:
Section 40

Founder President: Lord Clancarty.

☐ President: Section 40
☐ Vice President: Section 40
☐ Hon. Membership Secretary Section 40
☐ Chairman (U.K.) Section 40
☑ Secretariat: Section 40
☐ Computer Advisor: Section 40

Section 40
Air Staff 2a
Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Ref D/Sec(AS) 12/3

27th July 1992

Dear Sir,

This is to confirm that permission is granted to give out our telephone number and address as per your letter, regarding UFO sightings, etc.,
Many thanks.

Yours faithfully
CONTACT UK

Section 40

Section 40

E4/1

CENTRE FOR CROP CIRCLE STUDIES

Patron: The Earl of Haddington

Section 40 [redacted]

27th July, 1992

Section 40 [redacted]
Sec. AS.2(a), Room Section 40
Ministry of Defence,
Whitehall, London SW1

Dear Section 40

Many thanks for your telephone call on 10th July and for your letter of 13th July. The latter has only just reached me at my temporary address above, where I shall be living until about the end of August.

CCCS will be delighted to act as a convenient point of reply to letters reaching you from the public about crop circle sightings. As you say, this will be valuable to us and, I hope, helpful to you in relieving you of a burden of correspondence. (I have already received - and will be replying to - a letter from the lady who had 'phoned you before you spoke to me).

As I mentioned to you, CCCS is currently engaged in a jointly funded research programme with a North American team of scientists, based at Alton Barnes. Preliminary results obtained last year suggest that measurable changes occur in the soil and crops in genuine crop circle events. The purpose of this year's research is to see whether these initial findings can be replicated by more exacting tests and placed on a basis which will justify publication to the wider scientific community in peer-reviewed journals.Most of the current work has had to be funded by CCCS, its American counterpart, and private donors; and this inevitably restricts the scope of the research programme. Welcome help has, however, been offered on an informal basis by the Radiation Spectroscopy Unit at Harwell Laboratories, the Physics Department at Glasgow University, and several well qualified individuals in this country. In the United States the University of Nevada and some other institutions and individuals are undertaking a range of scientific tests of crop and soil samples and controls.

Since you wrote to me I have had an indication that MAFF and at least one of its agencies is taking a scientific interest in the phenomenon, although earlier approaches made by us to MAFF had suggested otherwise. We shall shortly be informing them again of our research programme.

We and our North American colleagues have much work to do before results can be confidently assessed; and we shall not be rushing to publish them until suitable peer-reviewing proves possible. It will, however, be CCCS's continuing policy to inform British government departments and agencies of any indications that worthwhile scientific progress is being made.

Many thanks again for writing. I will keep in touch.

Yours sincerely,

(Ralph Noyes)
Research Liaison, CCCS

President: Professor Section 40 [redacted]

Section 40 [redacted]

Chairman: Section 40 [redacted]

From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E4
+2

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
27 July 1992

Dear Section 40

When I wrote to you on 20 July I undertook to let you have copies of the more "exotic" UFO reports that we hold. I have now conducted a thorough search of our files, going back to 1985, which is the earliest one that we hold. As I indicated, nearly all the UFO reports that we have relate to little more than lights or discs in the sky, or an ill-defined shape or object of some sort. I have attached those reports I could find that go further than this. I have deleted the names and addresses of witnesses, together with other personal details. As I mentioned to you when you telephoned on Friday, I draw no firm conclusions from this material, and remain open-minded as to what may have prompted these five reports.

I have not included material relating to reports that are already in the public domain, such as photocopied extracts from books such as "Above Top Secret".

My view is that any reports of alien entities or abductions are, for whatever reason, made almost exclusively to UFO organisations rather than to us. Needless to say, if I receive any such reports, I would encourage people to get in touch with BUFORA, Quest International and Contact International.

I will let you know if I receive any close encounter reports in the future.

I hope this material is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

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From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
27 July 1992

Dear Section 40

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

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

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

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

Recycled Paper

From: Section 40, Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

EL

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

British UFO Research Association
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
D/Sec(AS)12/3

Date
27 July 1992

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Yours faithfully,

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From: Section 40 Secretariat(Air Staff)2a, Room Section 40

E1

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone (Direct Dialling) Section 40
(Switchboard)
(Fax)

Contact International
Section 40

Your reference

Our reference
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27 July 1992

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