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MOD Form 329D

(Revised 8/00)

120

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

d (Date of first enclosure)

THE

Registered file reference

Registered file reference  
D/DAS/64/4  
I

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

DAF-FOI

[FULL ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER]

SUBJECT

UFO: ~~SECRET~~

PO's TREAT OFFICIALS,  
MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

BLOCK CAPITALS

## KEYWORDS

[illegible]

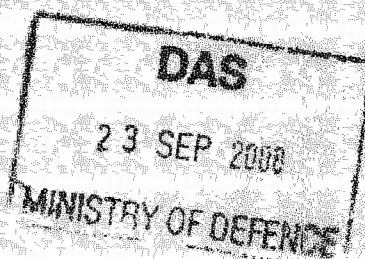
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119

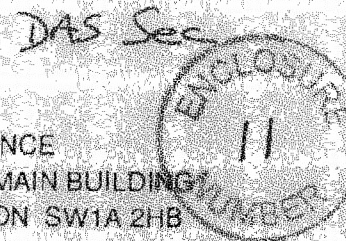




PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE  
AND MINISTER FOR VETERANS



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
FLOOR 5 ZONE B MAIN BUILDING  
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB  
Telephone: 020 7218 9000 (Switchboard)



Our ref: D/US of S/DT MC04424/2008  
Your ref: **Section 40** 1004/01080830

14 September 2008

Dear John

Thank you for your letter of 26 August on behalf of your constituent, **Section 40** of Wentworth.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. The MOD is not aware of any official contact with extraterrestrial life.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Directorate of Air Staff files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

The Directorate of Air Staff which collates all UFO sighting reports received by the MOD, has records of alleged UFO sightings dating back to 1984 whilst the Defence Intelligence Staff has a smaller number of files dating back to the late 1970s. The MOD has recently begun a programme to transfer some 160 of these files to The National Archives where they will be available to view by the general public over the internet. The first eight files were transferred electronically in May of this year.

John Healey MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA



**Section 40** may also be interested to know that details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 are already available for viewing on the MOD website, [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk), by searching under the phrase *UFO reports*.

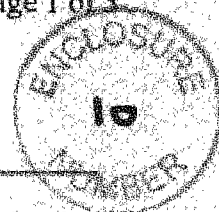
I hope this is helpful.

*gaw*

**Section 40**

**DEREK TWIGG MP**





Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 15 September 2008 09:52

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorised: UFO - DISCLOSURE T003431/2008 - FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 September 2008 asking whether the MoD passes any UFO sighting reports it receives to other departments once it has concluded its own investigations.

As a rule the MoD does not forward copies of its UFO sighting reports to other government departments to conduct their own investigations. The two exceptions I can think of are, that on the rare occasions when MoD investigates a sighting report, air defence staff might liaise with the Civil Aviation Authority to ask if they had seen anything on their radar screens. It is also possible that we might contact the Meteorological Office to find out if there were any unusual weather conditions occurring at the time of an incident, although, since the MoD's concern is air space integrity and not the identification of unusual phenomena, this would be unlikely.

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40

DAS-FOI  
05-H-13  
MoD main Building  
London  
SW1A 2HB

From: Section 40

Sent: 14 September 2008 10:56

To: Section 40

Subject: RE: UFO - DISCLOSURE T003431/2008

Hi Section 40

Many thanks for your email. I have become interested in the taboo subject of UFO's since having a very REAL viewing of this phenomenon (a disc shaped craft) several years ago. I have been busy at work of late so my reply to yourself is a bit overdue but what I wanted to ask you is that when the MOD ascertains that the UFO/s are of NO defence significance to the United Kingdom isn't the particular incident forwarded to another branch of Government for further investigation? If so could you give me their contact details. I'm sure you would agree in my assessment that any UFO despite appearing non threatening STILL warrants FURTHER investigation some more so than others. I would be VERY worried indeed if the UK government completely ignores UFO's present in it's airspace.

Well thanks for reading Section 40. Look forward to hearing from you soon,  
Best regards,

Section 40

Ps-Many thanks for the link to the freedom of information act UFO files-I have found some of these reports to be eye opening to say the least and it is good to know that other people out there seeing these unusual objects in the sky.

Subject: UFO - DISCLOSURE T003431/2008

15/09/2008



Date: Mon, 28 Jul 2008 14:59:02 +0100

From: Section 40

To: Section 40

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your e-mail of 23 July 2008 to Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne, regarding the existence of extra-terrestrials. It has been passed to this office to answer as we have responsibility for this subject.

Despite what many people think, and claim, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MoD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MoD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

You may wish to be aware that the MoD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MoD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The MoD Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk>, by searching under "UFO reports".

Additionally, the MoD has recently started a three year programme to transfer some 160 files on the UFO topic to The National Archives, where they will be placed on their website. The files will be transferred in chronological order with the aim of those covering 1979-92 being released in 2008, those covering 1992-2000 in 2009 and 2001-2007 during 2010. The first eight files have already been transferred and are available for viewing on-line.

I hope this explains the MoD position.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

05-H-13

MoD main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB

15/09/2008



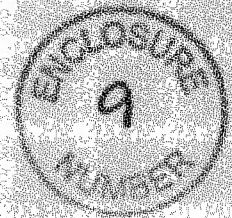


From: **Section 40**

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

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



Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)  
(Fax)

**Section 40**  
020 7218 9000

e-mail

das-ufo-office@mod.uk

**Section 40**

**Section 40**

Our Reference

TO04079/2008

Date

8 September 2008

Dear **Section 40**

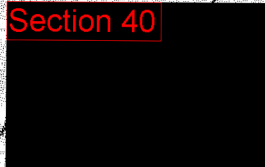
Thank you for your letter to the Prime Minister suggesting that the UK takes a more active role in UFO matters. It has been passed to this office to answer as we have responsibility for UFO correspondence.

My letter of 13 August 2008 outlined the role of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) which is the lead government department for UFO matters and therefore I will not repeat myself unnecessarily about our role. Although the MoD remains open minded about UFO matters, we do not believe that it would be appropriate to take a more active role at this time.

You may be interested in a MoD report from 2000 into such matters which can be viewed at our website [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk) by searching in the publication scheme under the title "*Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) in the UK Air Defence Region*".

I am sorry to have to provide what I know will be a disappointing response.

**Section 40**





2, MOD  
Defence

Section 40

Dear Prime Minister,

following the release of the UFO files by the ministry of  
defence, does the prime minister now feel it is time to take a more active roll in this  
subject. I don't believe a prime ministerial ~~report~~ position in Britain is enough to  
have knowledge of extra terrestrial life ect but feel that now public interest in  
this subject is at an all time high, it would be a good time to show more Governmental  
involvement, thus inspiring the electorate, & winning the hearts & minds of the  
public. This must be done in a professional manner, & also handled subtly  
& carefully, & most importantly with respect, so as to avoid becoming a laughing  
stock. The public ~~has~~ do have an increasing fascination in this subject regardless  
of wether or not they like to acknowledge it, & would love the Government to take  
the first steps into a more intriguing future. Thankyou for your time.

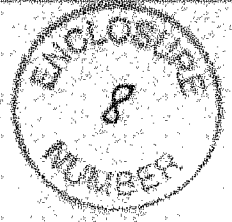
Yours sincerely,

Section 40

19 AUG 2002

TO 52/5  
EXP 25 Sep 02  
TO 04079/2P





Thank you for your letter of 26 August (ref: ) on behalf of your constituent **Section 40** of **Section 40**. It has been passed to me to respond as I have responsibility for this subject.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms, about which it remains totally open-minded. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity. The MOD is not aware of any official contact with extraterrestrial life.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Directorate of Air Staff files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

The Directorate of Air Staff which collates all UFO sighting reports received by the MOD.

DRAFT PLACED IN  
TOLKIT 4/9/08



has records of alleged UFO sightings dating back to 1984 whilst the Defence Intelligence Staff has a smaller number of files dating back to the late 1970s. The MOD has recently begun a programme to transfer some 160 of these files to The National Archives where they will be available to view by the general public over the internet. The first eight files were transferred electronically in May of this year.

**Section 40** may also be interested to know that details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 are already available for viewing on the MOD website, [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk), by searching under the phrase *UFO reports*.

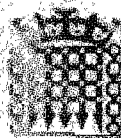
I hope this is helpful.

Derek Twigg MP

John Healey MP



John Healey MP



MC 04424/2008

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: **Section 40** 004/01080830

The Lord Drayson  
Ministry of Defence  
Floor 5, Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB



26 August 2008

Dear Paul

Please accept my apologies if the Ministry of Defence is not the most appropriate department to answer my constituent's enquiry, details of which were sent in two emails, copies of which I have enclosed.

I would appreciate any comments you could provide in response to the comments **Section 40** **Section 40** in the second paragraph of his 16 August email. I have informed him that I disagree with his claim that there is "popular and well documented evidence" on UFOs "by many many sources which governments refuse to acknowledge." I believe the video clip he refers to in his 24<sup>th</sup> July email relates to the alleged UFO crash in Roswell, USA, but I have been unable to view the clip properly.

The other points he makes in his 16 August email are being dealt with by the Home Office and the local authority.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With good wishes

**Section 40**

**JOHN HEALEY MP**  
**(WENTWORTH CONSTITUENCY)**



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**From:** Section 40  
**Sent:** 16 August 2008 00:22  
**To:** HEALEY, John  
**Subject:** Re: Earlier email

Thank you for your reply but obviously you didnt view the link I sent you.

I want FULL disclosure on UFO's to be released by the UK government, this is now a popular and well known documented evidence by many many sources which governments refuse to acknowledge. Its time we stood up and be accountable for our lies and cover-ups, and use these to our advantage to bring our nation at the forefront.  
You have a heavy load on your shoulders but this is of national interest and your responsibility as elected to bring our opinions to the house of commons or house of lords attention!

Also Knife crime how can we battle this before it becomes a national problem, What do these kids want or need, we have removed all the community areas where they used to enjoy including myself have seen these vanish.  
My solution is give these young adults jobs in the local councils cleaning litter on our streets, they need a job some respect and satisfaction that they are working and earning a living and also making our environment cleaner.

Locally I have cleaned in 5 country side roads over 15 black bags of rubbish which the council have not cleared who is accountable for this.

Give these young adults pride in this country give them jobs and some self respect rather then hanging around on streets with nothing else todo but to please themselves and do stupid things.

What will you be remembered for?

Yours hopefully

**Section 40**

---

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** HEALEY, John  
**To:** Section 40  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 11:00 AM  
**Subject:** Earlier email

Further to your email dated 24th July. If you wish me to take this up with any specific department then I would need you to set out what your specific concerns are. I look forward to hearing from you.

John Healey MP  
Constituency Office

20/08/2008



ATLEY, Irene

---

From: Message from the House of Commons - Find your MP service@HPUX14X.PARLIAMENT  
Sent: .UK  
24 July 2008 20:43  
To: HEALEY, John  
Subject: Section 40 on Kerrang Radio

Message :

I'd like to know your comments on the above topic which if you type into  
www.youtube.com you can hear the live interview.

When and how are the government going to release the real facts , rather than giving  
us worked out minor releases via the foi files.

And i'd like to know if you will bring this to the attention of the house and PM that  
we are ready for disclosure now.

Your MP : John Healey

Message ID : WH1216928566W4888db366dale

Name: Section 40

Postal code : Section 40

Postal address :

Email address : Section 40

Constituency Searched for: Section 40

Constituency From Postcode entered : Section 40

This person is in your constituency



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



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

Section 40

Our Reference

TO03922/2008

Date

28 August 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your letter of 11 August 2008 to the Prime Minister regarding comments made by Section 40 regarding extra terrestrial life. It has been passed to this office to answer as the Ministry of Defence (MoD) have responsibility for responding on this subject.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain the MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

The MoD is quite open about its involvement with the UFO phenomena and has placed a considerable amount of information on the subject on its own website at [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk). This year to date, we have answered close to 90 Freedom of Information requests on the subject of UFOs and we have a legal obligation to do so. Additionally, in May of this year we commenced a three year programme to place some 160 of our files on the subject in The National Archives, who can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

From time to time comments on the subject of UFOs are made in the media, but it is not our policy to investigate every instance of this. I can state that we are not actively investigating Section 40 statements and other than what has appeared in the media, have no knowledge regarding them.

I hope this is helpful.

Section 40

THREAT OFFICIAL B01922/08

13 Aug 2008

Section 40

Gordon Brown  
The Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA



11<sup>th</sup> August 2008

3  
MOD  
Defence

Dear Gordon Brown,

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008, **Section 40** who was the 6<sup>th</sup> man to walk on the moon spoke on a British radio station. He is a highly respected scientist and astronaut.

Here are some excerpts of what he said.

"I happen to be privileged to be in on the fact that we have been visited on this planet. The UFO phenomenon is real although it's been covered up by governments for quite a long time."

"The Roswell crash was real and a number of other contacts have been real and on going."

"It's been well covered up by all of our governments for the last sixty years or so."

"They are little people that look strange to us."

I would be very grateful if you could answer some very real concerns I have,

Do you believe that the British people have the right to know if our world has been contact by alien civilisations?

Do you or any member of the British Government have any knowledge or information about what **Section 40** was talking about?

Do **Section 40**'s comments concern you and have you taken any steps to find out about what he was saying?

I look forward to your response,

Yours sincerely,

**Section 40**





From: Section 40

Directorate of Air Staff - Freedom of Information

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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

Telephone

(Direct dial)  
(Switchboard)

Section 40  
020 7216 8000

e-mail

(Fax)  
das-ufo-office@mod.uk

Section 40

Section 40

Our Reference

TO03731/2008

Date

13 August 2008

Dear Section 40

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister regarding "*Britain's X-Files*". It has been passed to this office to deal with as the Ministry of Defence have responsibility for answering correspondence on this subject.

Firstly, thank your kind comments regarding the transfer of UFO files to The National Archives. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) is releasing some 160 files on the subject of UFOs as part of a three year programme. Files will be transferred in chronological order with the aim of those covering the period 1979-92 being transferred in 2008, those covering 1992-2000 in 2009 and those covering 2001-2007 in 2010.

The term "*X-files*" tends to conjure up images of Top Secret files and in depth investigations of UFOs, but I am afraid this is not really the case for the MoD. It may be helpful if I explain the MoD's interest in UFO matters. We examine any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' we receive solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so. Generally speaking, the MoD will investigate only a handful of UFO sightings a year. These are usually reports that have been made by air crew, air traffic control, Service or police personnel.

As for strange creatures or the paranormal, I am afraid that the MoD has no interest in these matters, although from time to time, members of the public write to us on these subjects and our correspondence files may therefore contain mention of them.

I hope this is helpful.

*John Munnings*

Section 40



JES M07

Dear Prime Minister,

Congratulations on releasing the various files on UFO's earlier this year. I look forward to further releases throughout the rest of the year. You are probably aware of the hit cult television show the 'X files'. There have been suggestions that certain countrys including Britain, has the equivalent to those files on which the show was based. Can the Prime Minister ~~confirm~~ confirm whether or not Britain has it's own version of 'the X files'. There would be files relating to mysterious sightings & reports of creatures, UFO's & paranormal phenomena.



Yours sincerely,

Section 40

30 JUL 2004



**Section 40**

**From:** **Section 40**  
**Sent:** 13 August 2008 11:57  
**To:** **Section 40**  
**Subject:** FW: Release-Authorised: Treat Official Correspondence: T003731/2008  
**Attachments:** T003731 2008 - 20080813114948 - S - **Section 40**

One for you....

**From:** Parli Branch-Treat-Official  
**Sent:** 13 August 2008 11:50  
**To:** DAS-Sec; Low Flying  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: Treat Official Correspondence: T003731/2008

**TREAT OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE - TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY**

**To:** DAS Sec  
**Copy To:**  
**Our Reference:** T003731/2008  
**Due Date:** 03 September 2008  
**Correspondent:** **Section 40**  
**Additional Advice:**

The Rt Hon Des Browne MP has received the attached correspondence from a member of the public, which this office has neither retained nor acknowledged. Please send a reply on behalf of the PM/Minister/Department.

Ministers attach great importance to correspondence being answered promptly, and your reply should be sent **within 15 working days of the date of this message**. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible, an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale. You should be aware that No 10 periodically calls for a sample of letters sent by officials on the PM's behalf for his perusal.

If correspondence includes a specific request for recorded information then it should be treated under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, even though the Act is not specifically mentioned. You should inform Parliamentary Branch, who will close the case down on the Parliamentary Toolkit. The correspondence should then be logged on the Access to Information Toolkit and you should consult and comply with the separate FOI guidance from DG Info. If you are in any doubt as to whether a piece of correspondence should be treated as an FOI request, you should ask your FOI Focal Point or refer to the guidance produced by DG Info. (See the guidance at <http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Admin/RespondToRequestsForInformation>)

**It is important that branches ensure they have simple systems to track correspondence received from members of the public, though the Parliamentary Toolkit records the basic details. If you have access to a DII/C terminal, please follow this link (once a response has been sent) to add your Final Reply Date and close the case to remove it from your TO Task List:**  
**[http://pt/\\_Layouts/PT/TaskList/TaskList.aspx](http://pt/_Layouts/PT/TaskList/TaskList.aspx). Lead Branches without access to the Toolkit should notify the Ministerial Correspondence Unit (via [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)) of the date of their reply so that Parli Branch can close the record on the Toolkit.**

Detailed guidance on handling TO Correspondence can be found on the Defence Intranet at [http://main.defence.mod.uk/min\\_parl/ParlBrch/TOGuid.htm](http://main.defence.mod.uk/min_parl/ParlBrch/TOGuid.htm). If you do not have access to

13/08/2008



On Intranet, please inform the Ministerial Correspondence Unit.

Email: [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)

Regards,

**MOD Parliamentary Branch  
Ministerial Correspondence Unit**

**t: Section 40**

**t:**

**f:**

**e: [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)**



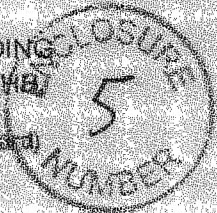


PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE  
AND MINISTER FOR VETERANS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
FLOOR 5 ZONE B MAIN BUILDING  
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone: 020 7218 9000 (Switchboard)

DAS SEC



Our ref: D/US of S/DT MC03844/2008  
Your ref: JD/jr/gencor. **Section 40**

21 July 2008

*Dr Jones*

Thank you for your letter of 14 July on behalf of your constituent, **Section 40** of **Section 40** regarding UFOs.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us.

I hope this explains the situation.

*gh n*

**Section 40**

DEREK TWIGG MP

Janet Dean MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA





PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE  
AND MINISTER FOR VETERANS



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
FLOOR 5 ZONE B MAIN BUILDING  
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone: 020 7218 9000 (Switchboard)



Our ref: D/US of S/DT MC03861/2008  
Your ref: **Section 40**/eb

29 July 2008

*Lynne*

Thank you for your letter of 14 July on behalf of your constituent, **Section 40** of **Section 40** **Section 40** regarding UFO sightings.

Firstly, it may be helpful if I explain that the Ministry of Defence has no expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial life forms. The MOD examines any reports of sightings solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance. The MOD's only concern therefore, is to establish whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Before 1967 all "UFO" files were destroyed after five years, as there was insufficient public interest in the subject to merit their permanent retention. However since 1967, following an increase in public interest in this subject, "UFO" report files are now routinely preserved. Directorate of Air Staff files for 1967 to 1984, and any files prior to 1967 which did survive, are now available for examination at The National Archives, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Telephone: 0208 876 3444. Details of how to access these records and The National Archives on line catalogue can be found on their website at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>.

The Directorate of Air Staff which collates all UFO sighting reports received by the MOD, has records of alleged UFO sightings dating back to 1984 whilst the Defence Intelligence Staff has a smaller number of files dating back to the late 1970s. The MOD has recently begun a programme to transfer some 160 of these files to The National Archives where they will be available to view by the general public over the internet. The first eight files were transferred electronically in May of this year.

Lynne Featherstone MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA





Section 40

may also be interested to know that details of UFO sightings for the period 1997-2007 are already available for viewing on the MOD website, [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk), by searching under the phrase UFO reports.

I hope this is helpful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Twigg", is written over a black rectangular redaction box.

Section 40

**DEREK TWIGG MP**



**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 30 July 2008 13:43**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-authorized: EMPLOYMENT WITH UFO BRANCH - TO03474**Dear** **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail to Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne, asking for details of how to apply for positions in the MoD's *UFO department*. It has been passed to this office to deal with as we have responsibility for answering questions relating to UFOs.

Firstly, I think it would be helpful if I gave you some background about the MoD role in UFO matters. Despite what many people think, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MoD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MoD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

The term UFO "department" is actually rather misleading. I suspect it gives the impression of a large organisation within the MoD dedicated to research into UFO matters and extra-terrestrials. In fact, there are two posts within the MoD that are dedicated to UFO matters. One (DAS-FOI) is at D Grade, which is the most junior management level within the Ministry and the second (DAS-FOII) is at E1 grade which is at non managerial level. Both these posts are part of a branch based in London called the Directorate of Air Staff. This branch deals with a wide range of air defence related matters of which UFOs is a minor part. Although the overwhelming majority of the UFO work in these two posts involves (and has for decades) answering correspondence from the public or recording sightings reported to the MoD, we do on occasion investigate reports. This usually involves liaising with air defence experts (such as radar specialists) on perhaps half a dozen reports per year. These will generally be sightings made by aircrew, members of the armed forces or the police. I think I should make it clear that we do not do field investigations.

The two posts require general office skills, with a preference for strong drafting abilities. When either of them becomes vacant, they are filled by internal competition. If you wanted to take up one of these posts, you would therefore first need to join the MoD, and then once you had established yourself, apply for the posts as and when they become vacant.

If you were interested in pursuing a career within the MoD, please let me know and I will put you in contact with the relevant recruitment branch or section.

I hope this is helpful.

30/07/2008



Yours sincerely,

**Section 40**

DAS-FOI  
05-H-13  
MoD Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB



T003474 2008 - 20080730114251 - S - Section 40

From: feedback@www.mod.uk  
Sent: 24 July 2008 17:56  
To: Ministers  
Subject: U.F.O's

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 17:55:48

firstname: Section 40

lastname: Section 40

address1: Section 40

address2: Address line 2

towncity: Section 40

statecounty: Section 40

postzipcode: Section 40

country: UK

e-mail: Section 40

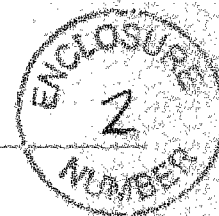
informationrequest: I know this may be the most strangest thing to ask, but i would like to know how i would go about finding how to apply for any positions within your U.F.O dept.

Any tel number's or contact name's would be great.

Many Thanks Section 40

submit: Send Form



**Section 40****From:** **Section 40****Sent:** 30 July 2008 09:09**To:** **Section 40****Subject:** Release-authorised: ALIENS - T003469Dear **Section 40**

Thank you for your e-mail of 27 July 2008 to Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne, asking whether aliens will attack the earth, what they want from earth and why the government are covering it up. It has been passed to this office to answer as we have responsibility for answering correspondence on this subject.

Despite what many people think, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MoD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MoD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

It rather follows therefore, that the MoD is unaware of any alien plans to attack the earth, nor, if aliens do exist, why they should want to attack our planet.

You may wish to be aware that the MoD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MoD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The MoD Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk>, by searching under "UFO reports".

Additionally, the MoD has recently started a three year programme to transfer some 160 files on the UFO topic to The National Archives, where they will be placed on their website. The files will be transferred in chronological order with the aim of those covering 1979-92 being released in 2008, those covering 1992-2000 in 2009 and 2001-2007 during 2010. The first eight files have already been transferred and are available for viewing on-line.

I hope this explains the MoD position.

Yours sincerely,

30/07/2008



**Section 40**

DAS-FOI

05-H-13

MoD main Building

Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HB



TO03469 2008 - 20080729142603 - S -

Section 40

From: no-reply@feedback.mod.uk  
Sent: 27 July 2008 01:36  
To: Ministers  
Subject: Ask a Minister

This request has been received via www.mod.uk.

txtfirstname: Section 40

txtlastname: Section 40

txtsubject: Aliens

txtaddress1: Section 40

txtaddress2: Section 40

txttowncity:

txtstatecountry: England

txtzipcodepostcode: Section 40

txtcountry: United Kingdom

txtemailAddress: Section 40

txtrequest: My name is Section 40 and i am curious if you have ever had any interaction with aliens as i know they are out there and i know they are visiting Earth and dont see why the government should hide it, I would like to know the following questions:  
.will they ever attack earth?  
.why are the goverment hiding it?  
.what do they want from Earth?

Could you please write me back with what ever your allowed to tell me.

Section 40





Section 40

From: Section 40

Sent: 28 July 2008 14:59

To: Section 40

Subject: Release-authorized: UFO - DISCLOSURE T003431/2008

Dear Section 40



Thank you for your e-mail of 23 July 2008 to Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne, regarding the existence of extra-terrestrials. It has been passed to this office to answer as we have responsibility for this subject.

Despite what many people think, and claim, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO/flying saucer' matters or the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. I should add that to date the MoD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena. The MoD examines any reports of 'unidentified flying objects' it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorized foreign military activity.

Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external military source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MoD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

You may wish to be aware that the MoD has already released a great deal of information about UFOs which is available for public viewing. MoD files were routinely destroyed after five years until 1967 when they were generally preserved for The National Archives. A few have survived before 1967 and these together with records up to 1987 are now available for public viewing. The National Archives can be contacted at Ruskin Avenue, Richmond, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU or telephone, 020 8876 3444. The National Archives also have a website giving information about the records they hold and how to access them. This can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>. The MoD Freedom of Information website also contains some released information on UFOs. This can be accessed the internet at: <http://www.mod.uk>, by searching under "UFO reports".

Additionally, the MoD has recently started a three year programme to transfer some 160 files on the UFO topic to The National Archives, where they will be placed on their website. The files will be transferred in chronological order with the aim of those covering 1979-92 being released in 2008, those covering 1992-2000 in 2009 and 2001-2007 during 2010. The first eight files have already been transferred and are available for viewing on-line.

I hope this explains the MoD position.

Yours sincerely,

Section 40

DAS-FOI

29/07/2008



05-H-13  
MoD main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB



From: feedback@www.mod.uk  
Sent: 23 July 2008 23:11  
To: Ministers  
Subject: Extra-terrestrials

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on wednesday, July 23, 2008 at 23:11:12

firstname: Section 40

lastname: Section 40

address1: Section 40

address2: Section 40

towncity: Section 40

statecounty: Section 40

postzipcode: Section 40

country: UK

e-mail: Section 40

informationrequest: Hi there,  
Hope you didn't laugh at my subject heading. If you've made it this far then thanks. I have just heard a radio interview on the Kerrang station in the UK with former Nasa astronaut and Section 40 who quite openly admits to the existence of extra-terrestrial visitation to planet Earth and that the governments of the world have known about this and have been covering this up for a long time. If you visit the website [www.disclose.tv](http://www.disclose.tv) you can listen to this interview for yourself.

Well there really is not much more to say other than I hope the UK government at least stops lying to it's people and finally tell us what the vast majority of us already know to be true and with regards to this subject DOES THE RIGHT THING... disclosure!

Thanks hope to hear from you soon,  
Best regards,

Section 40

submit: Send Form



**Section 40**

**From:** **Section 40**  
**Sent:** 28 July 2008 11:33  
**To:** **Section 40**  
**Subject:** FW: Release-Authorised: Treat Official Correspondence: TO03431/2008  
**Attachments:** TO03431 2008 - 20080728113114 - S - **Section 40**

**From:** Parli Branch-Treat-Official  
**Sent:** 28 July 2008 11:32  
**To:** DAS-Sec; Low Flying  
**Subject:** Release-Authorised: Treat Official Correspondence: TO03431/2008

**TREAT OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE - TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PRIORITY**

**To:** DAS Sec  
**Copy To:**  
**Our Reference:** TO03431/2008  
**Due Date:** 15 August 2008  
**Correspondent:** **Section 40**  
**Additional Advice:**

The Rt Hon Des Browne MP has received the attached correspondence from a member of the public, which this office has neither retained nor acknowledged. Please send a reply on behalf of the PM/Minister/Department.

Ministers attach great importance to correspondence being answered promptly, and your reply should be sent **within 15 working days of the date of this message**. If, exceptionally, this should prove impossible, an interim reply should be sent within the same timescale. You should be aware that No 10 periodically calls for a sample of letters sent by officials on the PM's behalf for his perusal.

If correspondence includes a specific request for recorded information then it should be treated under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, even if the Act is not specifically mentioned. In general, if you meet the Department's 15 working day deadline and respond fully to the request for information, then there is no need to follow the full procedures for FOI requests. However, you will still need to acknowledge that you have applied the Act and provide details of their right of appeal (see link below). If the correspondence requests information which is not already in the public domain, and particularly if you considering withholding information, then you should formally treat it as a FOI request. The correspondence should be logged on the Access to Information toolkit and you should consult and comply with the separate FOI guidance from DG Info. Note, the shorter deadline for responding to Ministerial and Treat Official correspondence will still apply. If you are in any doubt as to whether a piece of correspondence should be treated as an FOI request, you should ask your FOI Focal Point or refer to the guidance produced by DG Info. (See the guidance at <http://defenceintranet.dliweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Admin/RespondToRequestsForInformation>)

**It is important that branches ensure they have simple systems to track correspondence received from members of the public, though the Parliamentary Toolkit records the basic details. If you have access to a DII/C terminal, please follow this link (once a response has been sent) to add your Final Reply Date and close the case to remove it from your TO Task List:**  
[http://pt/\\_Layouts/PT/TaskList/TaskList.aspx](http://pt/_Layouts/PT/TaskList/TaskList.aspx). Lead Branches without access to



The Toolkit should notify the Ministerial Correspondence Unit (via [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)) of the date of their reply so that Parli Branch can close the record on the Toolkit.

Detailed guidance on handling TO Correspondence can be found on the Defence Intranet at [http://main.defence.mod.uk/min\\_pari/ParlBrch/TOGuid.htm](http://main.defence.mod.uk/min_pari/ParlBrch/TOGuid.htm). If you do not have access to the Intranet, please inform the Ministerial Correspondence Unit.

Email: [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)

Regards,

**MOD Parliamentary Branch  
Ministerial Correspondence Unit**

t: **Section 40**

t:

f:

e: [ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk](mailto:ParliBranch-Treat-Official@mod.uk)