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LOOSE MINUTE

D/S4(Air)/8/3

DI55 - Section 40
Ops(GE)2D(RAF)

Copy to: ACS(G)(RAF)

UFOS - DEBATE IN THE LORDS

I enclose a first draft of a proposed concluding speech for Lord Strabolgi in the Lords' debate.

2. The draft tries to take account of the points made to us on Thursday by Lord Strabolgi. However, on starting to re-read the Earl of Clancarty's book 'Mysterious Visitors' I have appreciated more fully how heavily the Earl has hedged his bets about space travel: indeed he suggests that the 'sky people' are 'paranormal' and come from 'another space/time dimension'. I do not recommend trying to track the Earl through other dimensions, and suggest we stick to the bare essentials that we proposed to Lord Strabolgi - that there are plenty of phenomena, that there are perfectly sensible explanations for them, and that the explanations offered by ufology are unnecessary and prove idiotic under critical examination.
3. I would be grateful for any recent recorded cases to cover the parts of para 6; otherwise I shall draw on the Condon Report and Klass (the anti-UFO investigator).
4. Clancarty is likely to produce some 'documented and fully authenticated cases'. I would like to be able to demolish one as an illusion. I have provisionally chosen the disappearance of the Norfolk Battalion at Gallipoli, which Clancarty quotes in one of his books: Hd of Army Historical Branch says that this is a 'regular', about which the facts can be produced.
5. I would be grateful for comments, criticisms and additional arguments or cases. At this stage I am particularly anxious to know whether you agree to the main line of arguments. Because time is short I would be grateful for telephone comments.
6. The present draft is about 2,000 words, around 15 minutes.
7. I have copied this minute to ACS(G)(RAF), and I would be grateful for his comments on the general line of argument.

Section 40

18 December 1978

Head S4(Air)

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