

Section 40

UFO RESEARCH, BROADCASTS & LECTURES

Section 40

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

Your ref: D/Sec (AS)/12/3

24 July 1985

Dear Section 40

Thank you very much for your helpful letter of 10 July 1985 in reply to mine of 18 May 1985.

I am grateful to you for having gone to the trouble of providing me with a list of sightings reported from all sources for the period 1978-1984, but note that my question remains unanswered. While I realise that my request for the number of military sightings from 1959-1984 was a tall order, I still need to have some idea of the number of these - particularly concerning the RAF - in a given period. May I therefore re-phrase my question as follows: How many reports of UFOs have been made by RAF personnel from 1965-1975? If that's too time-consuming, may I ask: How many reports of UFOs were made by RAF pilots in 1967?

As you point out, there has been no evidence to date to indicate a defence threat or significance, so would your department have any objection to releasing details in order to assist me in my researches? As already mentioned, I have obtained a few reports from the early Fifties which have obviously been declassified under the 30-year rule, but it is well known that pilots in the RAF have been seeing these things since then: certainly the Bentwaters case (1956) is a good example.

I am glad to note that AS-2 is now the point to which all reports of UFOs are sent. But what about AS-8, which was mentioned to me by a reliable source? What are its functions, please?

Finally, I was interested to note that your department recognizes that there are "phenomena", even if you think there is no defence significance to them, and that no scientific study has been carried out.

If possible, I would appreciate a reply within four weeks. Thank you.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

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