



File 12/3

Section 40 (E39/0/1)
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MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Min(DS)DGT 28/1/4

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UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS - MEETING WITH LORD HILL-NORTON:
THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER 1985

You were very kindly present when Lord Trefgarne met Lord Hill-Norton at 11 am at UKLF on Thursday 10 October to discuss Unidentified Flying Objects.

Lord Trefgarne opened the discussion by explaining that there was a central secretariat within the Ministry of Defence, part of whose responsibility was to act as a focal point for the report of unidentified sightings. Their task was to consider whether there were any defence implications from such reports.

Lord Hill-Norton emphasised that he believed quite sincerely that there was a problem of UFOs. He had considered for a number of years that the MOD's response to reported sightings had been unsatisfactory.

Specifically he cited the incident at Woodbridge in 1980 and criticised the alleged refusal by MOD to acknowledge the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Halt's report for 2½ years. He referred to a number of papers released in the United States under the Freedom of Information Act which had been carefully examined in the United States, and which he considered would be of interest to the MOD. He also referred to a book due to be published shortly which is anticipated to be critical of the MOD in this area.