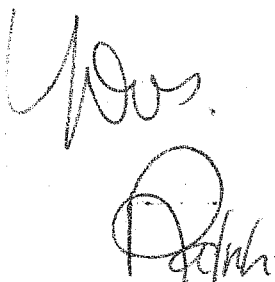


In your letter to me of 20th March 1984 you said, "The Department satisfied itself at the time that there was no reason to consider that the alleged sightings had any Defence significance". You added, "I can assure you ... that there is no evidence of anything having intruded into British airspace and 'landing' near RAF Woodbridge". In the light of the research which Cable News Network claim to have undertaken I hope you will not think it unreasonable if I invite your replies to the following questions.

1. What steps were taken by the MOD when Col. Halt's report of 13 January 1981 was received in the Department ? In particular:-
  - a. What consultations took place with the USAF ?
  - b. Was any on-site investigation made by MOD or British Service personnel ?
  - c. Was any enquiry made to RAF Watton or other radar establishments for possible traces of an unidentified occurrence in the Suffolk area on the nights of 26/27, 27/28 and 29/30 December 1980 ? If so, what was the outcome ?
2. Is the MOD aware of the tape-recording which Col. Halt claims to have made on 29 December 1980 (and of which alleged copies are now in the hands of several members of the public) ? If so, what interpretation does the MOD place on this recording ?
3. Is the MOD aware of the cine-film allegedly made on site on 29th December 1980 ? If so, what interpretation is placed upon it ?
4. In the light of the answers to these questions does the MOD adhere to its view that nothing unknown or untoward intruded into British airspace in late December 1980 ? Is this also the view of the USAF ?
4. If this does indeed remain the MOD's considered conclusion, does the Department feel any disquiet at an apparent and persistent misperception of presumably innocent phenomena by USAF personnel based at an important installation in British territory and charged with military tasks the mismanagement of which might have grave consequences ?

I regret burdening you with these questions and with those contained in my sixth paragraph above. But I think they are potentially important, and I doubt that we have heard the last of them.



(Ralph Noyes)