

From: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Sent: 02 March 2007 10:24  
To: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Cc: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Subject: RE:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
Flag Status: Orange  
XXXXXXXXXX S.40

I agree absolutely that we cannot sustain the current level of FOI requests. I have spoken to XXXXXXXXXXXX- the AD in my area that is the only one left in DIST who knows anything S.40 about the UFO issue. He feels strongly that this campaign is being led by one man and the cumulative resource implications of what he has been asking for has been considerable. We expect this to continue. You need to check with Info Access whether there can be any argument that enough is enough when someone is asking many related questions over a protracted period of time.

If there is no relief (and I believe the FOI Act was naively created so my expectations are low) then I agree with you that we have to rethink. I did suggest publishing the whole lot on a website a while ago but the onus will fall to your staff. XXXXXXXX assures me that we S.40 have no objections on classification grounds and we don't need a significant involvement. Its just a case of all the redactions which is largely a matter of removing names of individuals and companies. You now own all the I-Hub staff so giving a bit more help to the secretariat for a limited period to do all this would seem sensible. Once we get round to publishing on a website cannot we then destroy all the files?

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DIST

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From: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Sent: 26 February 2007 18:09  
To: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Cc: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Subject: RE:

XXXXXX, XXXXXX

I think that a publication plan is a very sound approach to take when there are continual requests on the same or similar subjects. It may cost resource in the short term, but if well planned should have a big pay-back in the longer term; although a well paced publication plan may well save resource from the start. The trick is to ensure that the scope of the publication plan is as wide as possible, so that it covers many future FOI requests.

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From: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Sent: 26 February 2007 17:33  
To: XXXXXXXXXXXXX S.40  
Cc: XX S.40  
Subject:

XXXXXX S.40

We have just received another batch of FOI requests from the UFO spotters. This adds to the existing tail of follow-up requests and appeals that we are already dealing with. It is a task that is occupying the best part of one of my staff full time and no doubt a considerable amount of yours. I wonder whether we have come to the stage when we need to take a fresh look at the matter and say enough is enough on the piecemeal reactive stance we have taken up to now and consider (in conjunction with DAS if necessary) wholesale release of papers on the subject.

I am not advocating that we should release all documents at once but we could have a staged programme for the review and release. That would at least allow us to respond to new requests by saying that we are planning publication. It gives us a breathing space.

I would be grateful for your thoughts because I don't believe that the current "guerrilla war" being conducted by UFOlogists is not sustainable from our perspective. It also puts us in a poor light.

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**Civ XXXXXXXXX** **S.40**