

Attachment to Request 2

MOD Policy on Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)

The Ministry of Defence does not have any expertise or role in respect of 'UFO / flying saucer' matters or to the question of the existence or otherwise of extraterrestrial lifeforms, about which it remains totally open-minded. To date the MOD knows of no evidence which substantiates the existence of these alleged phenomena.

The MOD examines any 'UFO' reports it receives solely to establish whether what was seen might have some defence significance; namely, whether there is any evidence that the United Kingdom's airspace might have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised air activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom from an external source, and to date no 'UFO' report has revealed such evidence, we do not attempt to identify the precise nature of each sighting reported to us. We believe that rational explanations, such as aircraft lights or natural phenomena, could be found for them if resources were diverted for this purpose, but it is not the function of the MOD to provide this kind of aerial identification service. It would be an inappropriate use of defence resources if we were to do so.

If you wish to report a sighting or have any questions about the MOD's position regarding UFOs, you should write to the following address;

Ministry of Defence
Directorate of Air Staff – Freedom of Information
5th Floor, Zone H
Main Building
London
SW1A 2HB

Alternatively you can contact us on any of the following;

Telephone: 020-7218-2140 (24 hour Answerphone)
Fax: 020-7218-7701 or 020-7218-2680
E-Mail: das-ufo-office@mod.uk