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Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your-email dated 18 August reporting a UFO sighting in the Northampton area.

The MOD is not responsible for civilian airspace, nor does it investigate UFO sightings. You may wish to contact the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) about aircraft movements. The CAA details can be found via <http://www.caa.co.uk>. General enquiries to the CAA can be e-mailed to infoservices@caa.co.uk.

The MOD has no specific capability for identifying the nature of such UFO sightings. There is no Defence benefit in such investigation and it would be an inappropriate use of defence resources. Furthermore, responding to reported UFO sightings diverts MOD resources from tasks that are relevant to Defence. Therefore, with effect from the 1 December 2009 the dedicated UFO hotline answer-phone service and e-mail address which used to collate this information was withdrawn.

The MOD has no opinion on the existence or otherwise of extra-terrestrial life. In over fifty years, no UFO report has revealed any evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom.

Accordingly, in order to make best use of Defence resources, the MOD will no longer respond to reported UFO sightings or investigate them. However, the MOD's programme of releasing Departmental files on UFO matters to the National Archive will continue.

Yours sincerely.

[Original signed]

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

