

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#); s47E(c)  
DGPERK-AF P&EAL; s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c) [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#); s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211027 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - RAAF MLO Senate Estimates Update - 1345h, 27 Oct 21 - Final Update and Complete Summary  
**Date:** Wednesday, 27 October 2021 6:03:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

**OFFICIAL**

Sirs, Ma'am, et al,

Senate Estimates has now been completed. Thankyou to everyone who supported the day's proceedings. Please find below a complete summary of Senate Estimates. A more concise summary will be shared tomorrow, which will also detail post Estimates actions required, for RAAF line areas.

**BLUF: A number of topics have been raised in the afternoon session including questioning on**

s22

**UFOs/UAPs,** s22

s22

**In the final session, CAF was questioned on his knowledge of UFO/UAPs in Australia.**

For members who wish to re-watch a recording of the day's proceedings, you will be able to at [https://www.aph.gov.au/Watch\\_Read\\_Listen](https://www.aph.gov.au/Watch_Read_Listen) and clicking 'Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee – 27 October 2021'.

---

### **Summary of Department of Defence appearing at Senate Estimates – 27 October 2021**

**Witnesses (in order of appearance at Estimates thus far):** Mr Greg Moriarty, Secretary; GEN Angus Campbell, CDF; VADM Jonathan Mead, Chief NPS Nuclear TF; VADM David Johnston, VCDF; VADM Michael Noonan, CN; Mr Tony Dalton, DEPSEC National Naval Shipbuilding; Mr Andrew Byrne, FAS National Naval Shipbuilding; RADM Matthew Buckley, Head Nuclear Powered Submarine Capability; Mr Peter Tesch, DEPSEC SP&I; Mr Greg Sammut, GM Submarines; Ms Sherly Lutz, FAS Ships CASG; AIRMSHL Mel Hupfeld, CAF; Mr Steven Groves, CFO; RADM Sarah Sharkey, SG-ADF; MAJGEN Natasha Fox, HDPC; LTGEN Rick Burr, CA; Mr Scott Dewar, Nuclear TF; Ms Lisa Phelps, FAS People Services; Ms Celia Perkins, DEPSEC E&IG

s22



- **UFOs/UAPs**
  - What are you aware of UAPs/UFOs in Australian Air Space? Is there any RAAF policy?
  - Is there any reporting of UAPs/UFOs? **QoN (RAAF MLO ACTION)**
  - Does JORN pick up UAPs/UFOs?
  - Have you see the US DoD videos?

s22



**From:** [noreply@pws.gov.au](mailto:noreply@pws.gov.au)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211027 - e-mail - noreply@pws.gov.au/s47E(c) - MC21-004149 : s47F - Reporting and investigation of UFOs and UAPs - departmental response PDMS Notification - Record Assigned  
**Date:** Wednesday, 27 October 2021 3:17:54 PM

---

**SEC=OFFICIAL**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

**PDR Record Assigned - [MC21-004149](#)**

from s47E(c)  
to s47E(c)

**Status:**

**Draft**

**Subject:** s47F - Reporting and investigation of UFOs and UAPs - departmental response

<b>Instruction:</b>	27 Oct 21: s47E(c) HAC has previously responded to s47F via MC21-002907. Can we confirm that there is nothing more that we can do to answer his questions in a more detailed manner? Will RAAF (DoD) ever develop a policy regarding UFOs? If yes, please draft the attached Departmental response, have it cleared by the relevant one star officer and assign to Air Force Coordination by COB Fri 12 Nov 21. If there is no further information that can be provided, please advise RAAF MLO by COB Mon 01 Nov 21. Regards, s47E(c) RAAF MLO
---------------------	--

**Milestones:**  
Due for **Clearance:** 22/11/2021 5:00 PM  
Due to **Parliamentary:** 23/11/2021 5:00 PM  
Due to **Minister's Office:** 24/11/2021 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on 02 6265 9192 or at [PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

**PDMS Notification Service**

*Please do not reply to this message.*

**CC Recipients:**

RAAF Ministerials RAAF Ministerials (RAAF.MLO@defence.gov.au)

**SEC=OFFICIAL**

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#); s47E(c)  
DGPERK-AF P&EAL; s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c) [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#); s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211028 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - RAAF MLO Senate Estimates Summary  
**Date:** Thursday, 28 October 2021 10:00:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[RAAF MLO Senate Estimates Update - 1345h 27 Oct 21 - Final Update and Complete Summary](#)  
[SECOFFICIAL.msg](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Sirs, Ma'am, et al,

This email provides a brief summary on Defence's appearance at Senate Estimates on 27 October 2021, as well as information on watching a recording of CAF's appearances and post-estimate actions for RAAF line areas.

Thankyou to everyone who supported RAAF MLO in this Estimates preparation. If you have any feedback or wish to discuss any points surrounding Estimates, please do not hesitate to reach out.

### Senate Estimates Summary

s22



- The Air Force was questioned on two topics (links to records are below);
  - s22
  - Air Force's position on UFOs/UAPs in Australia (Senator Whish-Wilson)

### Recording of CAF's appearance at Senate Estimates (available on DRN)

To watch a recording of CAF's appearance at Estimates please click on the following link; [https://www.aph.gov.au/Watch\\_Read\\_Listen](https://www.aph.gov.au/Watch_Read_Listen), scroll down to 'Latest Events' then click the relevant part of 'Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee – 27 October 2021'. The times below indicate where you can skip to in the recording in order to watch CAF's appearances.

s22



17:12:40 – 17:20:00 (Part 2) - CAF questioned on UFO/UAPs

### Post-Estimates Actions for RAAF Line Areas

#### QoNs

RAAF MLO will work with RAAF line areas to develop responses to the outstanding QoNs from CAF's appearance at Senate Estimates.

#### Lessons Learned Session

In mid-November, RAAF MLO will invite stakeholders to share any additional feedback and to participate in a Lessons Learned session in order to understand and improve upon processes ahead of future Estimates. Feedback is welcomed to be emailed to RAAF MLO ahead of this session.

### Timeline for Next Senate Estimates

s22



Kind Regards,

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0



**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211028 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - 21-1441 - ABC News - Reports to US Congress of UAPs (fBP2974990)  
**Date:** Thursday, 28 October 2021 7:53:00 AM

---

OFFICIAL  
s47E(c)

Here is the list of all UAP/UFO recent submissions.

MC21-002479  
MC21-002907  
MC21-002222  
MC21-004149

The response has been consistent across all returns:

The Department of Defence has no protocol for reporting or recording of UAP/UFOs.

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 October 2021 6:00 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: 21-1441 - ABC News - Reports to US Congress of UAPs (fBP2974990) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good catch s47E(c) and as discussed the DG has already fwd on.

Sir, can you please forward a copy of what was sent so we are consistent next time UAPs or UFOs come up?

Regards,  
s47E(c)

s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
Director Space Domain  
Air Force Headquarters

s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 October 2021 5:31 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)

Subject: 21-1441 - ABC News - Reports to US Congress of UAPs (fBP2974990) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Sir,

CAF was asked by Senator Whish Wilson about the US report released in 25Jun about UAP (Unidentified Aerial phenomena) and whether we had a similar taskforce set up like the US to investigate. CAF responded no (RAAF perspective), but the senator asked whether the other services had reported UAP. CAF took the QoN. The below is the previous info we have given on this.

Army has no method for reporting and Navy uses the Aviation Safety Occurrence (ASOR) reporting methodology. No reported UAP to date.

The following statements are cleared by s47E(c) on behalf of s47E(c) on 23Jun21:

Question:

You're probably aware of a report due to be delivered to the US Congress around June 25 on what the US government knows in relation to unidentified aerial phenomena (otherwise known as UFOs).

The ABC published this story on the matter earlier this month: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-04/us-government-finds-no-evidence-aerial-sightings-were-ufos/100191126>

Is there any similar move to gather information within Australia's Department of Defence?  
Defence does not have a protocol that covers recording or reporting of unidentified aerial phenomena(UAP)/unidentified flying object (UFO) sightings.

Will you be taking an interest in the declassified report when it is eventually made public?  
No: There is no Departmental interest.

Is this topic under active investigation by any arm of the Australian Defence Force?  
No: Defence does not have a protocol that covers recording or reporting of unidentified aerial phenomena(UAP)/unidentified flying object (UFO) sightings.

Given many of the sightings of unidentified phenomena involve US naval activity, have any similar sightings been reported by Australian navy personnel?  
No: Any unidentified sightings/anomalies are investigated and reported through the standard Aviation Safety Reporting (ASR) process.

s47E(c) has sent you a link to "21-1441 - ABC News - Reports to US Congress of UAPs" (fBP2974990) from Objective.

Open in Navigator

Double click on the attachment

Open in Your Browser

<https://objcdc8/id:fBP2974990>

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Cc:** s47E(c); [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#)  
**Subject:** 211103 - e-mail - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - Hansard Corrections and Letters of Correction  
**Date:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 1:40:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[image004.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Sir,

The UFO/UAP transcript looks accurate.

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Director General Air Defence & Space (DGADS-AF)  
Staff Officer to Director General Space Domain Review (DGSDR)  
Air Force Headquarters

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

asdfasd

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 1:26 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** Head of Air Force Capability Office <head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au>; RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: Hansard Corrections and Letters of Correction [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Sirs, all;

We have received the Hansard proof copy transcript from last week's Estimates sitting. I have watched the Estimates proceedings again and have made minor formatting changes within the attached PDF (the PDF has been amended to only include the relevant Air Force sections).



Could you please do quick review of the relevant SPA and UFO/UAP sections to ensure the evidence provided by CAF is accurate and correct. If you believe a correction needs to be made can you let RAAF MLO know and draft a response in the template attached.

It would be appreciated if you can please respond with any corrections or nil response NLT 1500h Fri, 05 Nov 21.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22

s22



**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211103 - e-mail - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - SQ21-000906 : SSCFADT - Supplementary Budget Estimates - 27 October 2021 - Q29 - UAPs - Senator Whish-Wilson PDMS Notification - Record Assigned  
**Date:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 8:45:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Sir,

As discussed, some recommended words for the email to Army and Navy.

- Does Navy/Army have protocols for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?
- Historically as the Navy/Army had any protocol for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?
- If no protocol exists does Navy/Army intend to establish Service specific protocols for reporting on UFO/UAPs? (I'm on the fence if we need to ask this one?)

We should probably ask the following to DASA too:

- Does DASA have any protocol for the reporting of UFO/UAPs outside of existing Aviation Safety reporting mechanisms?

In the transcript it references CAF is the Air Space Control Authority – The Joint Airspace Control Cell (under DGAIR) executes that on CAFs behalf, so it might be worth us requesting their input – can I go direct to them or do MLO need to approach them for a response?

Happy to discuss further if required.

Also any chance I can get a copy of a complete QoN so I can see how the responses are worded/formatted etc. I've not seen one in PDMS before (I guess that's a good sign)

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Director General Air Defence & Space (DGADS-AF)  
Staff Officer to Director General Space Domain Review (DGSDR)  
Air Force Headquarters

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

asdfasd

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** noreply@pws.gov.au <noreply@pws.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 November 2021 4:30 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** SQ21-000906 : SSCFADT - Supplementary Budget Estimates - 27 October 2021 - Q29 - UAPs - Senator Whish-Wilson PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**SEC=OFFICIAL**



**PDR Record Assigned - SQ21-000906**  
from s47E(c)  
to s47E(c)

**Status:**

**Draft**

**Subject:** SSCFADT - Supplementary Budget Estimates - 27 October 2021 - Q29 - UAPs - Senator Whish-Wilson

<b>Instruction:</b>	s47E(c), as discussed can you please develop input to respond to the attached QoN. Request you return to RAAF MLO NLT 10 Nov 21 with 1* clearance. HAC clearance required NLT 12 Nov 21. CAF clearance required NLT 15 Nov 21. A/SOHAC & SOCAF - FYSA. Regards, RAAF MLO
---------------------	--

**Milestones:**  
Due for **Clearance:** 17/11/2021 12:00 PM  
Due to **Parliamentary:** 17/11/2021 5:00 PM  
Due to **Minister's Office:** 26/11/2021 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on 02 6265 9192 or at [PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

**PDMS Notification Service**  
*Please do not reply to this message.*

**CC Recipients:**  
RAAF Ministerials RAAF Ministerials ([RAAF.MLO@defence.gov.au](mailto:RAAF.MLO@defence.gov.au))  
s47E(c)

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [Navy MLO](#)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#); [AHQ-PBA](#); [Navy MLO](#)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211104 - e-mail - s47E(c) Many - RAAF QoN - UFO/UAPs  
**Date:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 11:12:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

Navy responses to the two dot points as follows:

- **Does Navy have any current protocols for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?** Navy does not have any specific process or protocol for reporting UFO/UAP other than to report unusual air traffic to the appropriate airspace control authorities.
- **Historically has Navy had any protocol for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?** Historically, Navy has not had any specific protocol for reporting UFO/UAP other than to report unusual air traffic to the appropriate airspace control authorities.

This was cleared by the Deputy Fleet Commander, s47E(c)

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Manager

Navy Ministerials & Coord

Navy Headquarters

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** AHQ-PBA <ahq.pba@defence.gov.au>; Navy MLO <navy.mlo@defence.gov.au>  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RAAF QoN - UFO/UAPs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

## OFFICIAL

Good morning s47E(c),

Thankyou for taking my phone calls this morning regarding 'SSCFADT - Supplementary Budget Estimates - 27 October 2021 - Q29 - UAPs - Senator Whish-Wilson'.

Could you please provide advice on the following;

- Does Navy/Army have any current protocols for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?
- Historically has Navy/Army had any protocol for the reporting of UFO/UAPs?

Appreciate if you could return your cleared responses to RAAF MLO via email NLT COB Tue 09 Nov 21.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 | s47E(c) Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 211104.0943 - Email - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs  
**Date:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 9:43:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Will do.

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) RAAF MLO  
<raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Sir,

s22

s47E(c), as discussed if you can continue to lead the UFO/UAP item that would be great. I will touch base with you as Army and Navy provide their responses and then we can coordinate the PDMS part.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 9:09 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Sir – ADS branch has the PDMS already.

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)

**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 9:08 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted] RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks s47E(c)

s47E(c), are you happy to reassign in PDMS or do you just want me to get the ADS response and paste it in?

s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 7:22 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Cc:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Sir – ADS Branch; Space Domain is already working the QoN response with Army/Navy and the MLO.

No need for you to respond to #906

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2021 7:20 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hey mate – FYSA.

Kind regards,

s47E(c) [redacted]

Acting Staff Officer to Head of Air Force Capability  
Air Force Headquarters

s47E(c) | s22 [redacted] | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

cid:image002.png@01D655D9.67976E90

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 3:36 PM  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted] RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** DGACE-AF Registry <[dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au)>; s47E(c) [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]



OFFICIAL

Sirs, All,

I'll answer them all except the last one.

s47E(c), can you forward to me once you have an answer.

Once done I'll send to s47E(c) who can recirculate for additions.

Regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Staff Officer VIP Operations (SOVIPOPS)

s47E(c)

s22

s47E(c)

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)

**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 2:24 PM

**To:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>

**Cc:** DGACE-AF Registry <[dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au)>; s47E(c)

**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Flick the last one to s47E(c) please MLO ☺

Kind regards,

s47E(c)

Acting Staff Officer to Head of Air Force Capability  
Air Force Headquarters

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

cid:image002.png@01D655D9.67976E90

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)

**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 2:08 PM

**To:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>; s47E(c)

**Cc:** DGACE-AF Registry <[dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au)>; s47E(c)

Head of Air Force Capability Office <[head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au](mailto:head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi All,

s22



Sincerely,

---

s47E(c)

Director Strategic Airspace Management and Airbase Operations

s47E(c) s22 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, Russell, ACT, 2610

Signature Block DACE-AF - FINAL



IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22



Fluffy, are you able to shed any light on the last question?

Ta

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c); DGACE-AF Registry <[dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Sir,

Please see below expected spoken QoNs from the recent Supplementary Budget Senate Estimates.

Kindly request submission to DGACE by COB Mon 08 Nov.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

Acting Staff Officer to Director General Air Capability Enablers (DGACE-AF)  
Air Force Headquarters

Group email address: [dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:dgace-afregistry@dpe.protected.mil.au)  
s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

cid:image002.png@01D46560.BCE9C610

*"When a person is able to be their true self, they are able to contribute fully to Air Force capability"*

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 12:14 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c); Head of Air Force Capability Office <[head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au](mailto:head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au)>; RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RAAF Supplementary Budget Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Sirs, all,

RAAF MLO have received the five expected spoken QoNs from the recent Supplementary Budget Senate Estimates. We are still awaiting any written QoNs from the members of the Senate Committee. If there are any written QoNs for RAAF action, we will receive this NLT Mon 08 Nov 21. All QoNs will be assigned on PDMS. The below provides guidance on the question and clearances ahead of final CAF sign off for COB Wed 17 Nov 21.

PDR Item	Question Theme
s22	

s22

SQ21-000906	Do Army/Navy have any kind of reporting systems regarding UFOs/UAPs in Australia?
-------------	---

**Timeline – Clearances**

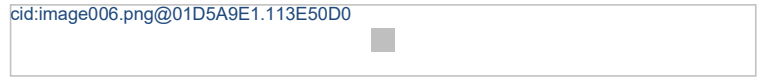
- Due to RAAF MLO from RAAF Line Areas (for review and provision for DCAF/HAC clearance) – COB Wed 10 Nov 21
- Due to RAAF MLO from ODCAF/OHAC (for review and provision for CAF clearance) – COB Fri 12 Nov 21
- Due to MECC – COB Wed 17 Nov 21

If you have any concerns about the QoNs, please reach out.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)



**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 211105 - e-mail -s47E(c) - For action - Question on Notice - UFO/UAPs - RAAF  
**Date:** Friday, 5 November 2021 3:35:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

They don't exist!

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) s22 | s47E(c) Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** AHQ-PBA  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 November 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>  
**Cc:** AHQ-PBA <ahq.pba@defence.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: For action - Question on Notice - UFO/UAPs - RAAF [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon s47E(c)

Army's response to the QoN, cleared by s47E(c)

- Army does not have dedicated instructions for specifically reporting Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.

Trust this helps

Many thanks

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 211110 - e-mail - s47E(c) RAAF MLO - Request for input: Senate Estimates Question on Notice: SQ21-001018  
**Date:** Wednesday, 10 November 2021 5:44:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

MLO – just in case this bounced with you as a CC addressee

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 10 November 2021 5:32 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for input: Senate Estimates Question on Notice: SQ21-001018  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s47E(c),

s47E(c) has cleared comment the following comment:

The Air and Space Operations Centre has not been requested to review the paper, nor are they aware of any guidance sought by the Department in relation to this matter

Cheers,

s47E(c)

---

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to s47E(c)  
Director General Air / Director General Air Command Operations

Executive Officer Air and Space Operations Centre

---

W: s47E(c) | M: s22 | E: s47E(c)  
Air & Space Operations Centre | Royal Australian Air Force | [Click to Chat](#)

Address: Headquarters Joint Operations Command | s47E(c) | Kings Highway | Queanbeyan, ACT 2609  
s47E(c) | PO Box 7928 | Canberra BC, ACT 2600

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 10 November 2021 1:11 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Request for input: Senate Estimates Question on Notice: SQ21-001018 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

## OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

Thank you for your time on the phone. Air Force is seeking input to answer questions that were asked on notice by Senator Peter Whish-Wilson. I have attached the QoN for context, however only seek input (if any) for the below.

1. Has the Department of Defence had the opportunity to formally review the report completed by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence titled 'Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena' published in June 2021?
2. What guidance, if any, has the Department sought on the publication of the US report and the implications for Australian aerospace?

Grateful for input, including nil, back to RAAF MLO cleared by 1 star by **NLT 1200hrs Friday 12 November 2021.**

Please do not hesitate to give me a call if you wish to discuss or the above timeframes are not feasible.

Regards

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
RAAF MLO | RCDVS Support Team | Air Force  
Directorate of Strategic Issues Management  
Air Force Headquarters  
*Contractor to Defence*

s47E(c) | Mobile: s22

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c); [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 211110 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - SQ21-001018 - Request for DASA response.  
**Date:** Wednesday, 10 November 2021 12:27:00 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

## OFFICIAL

Hey Mate,

Can you confirm nil returns from DASA to Q's 1 and 2 in the below? We just want to make sure we tick the Airspace Safety angle off, particularly for #2. Draft responses are at the bottom

If you need some top cover to get a 1\* response I can get MLO to push to DASA formally.

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 05 November 2021:

1. Has the Department of Defence had the opportunity to formally review the report completed by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence titled 'Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena' published in June 2021?

2. What guidance, if any, has the Department sought on the publication of the US report and the implications for Australian aerospace?

3. Is the 'Unusual Aerial Sightings Policy' still in effect, and if so when was it last reviewed? If it is not in effect or has been superseded,

4. In 2011, the Department of Defence reported that, in response to a FOI request from the Sydney Morning Herald, it had 'discovered one file, which had not been destroyed but could not be located'. If it could not be located, how would the Department know that the file had not been destroyed? Were all the files referenced hardcopy only (i.e. not digital)?

5. A response from the Department dated 8 June 2011 states that members of the public making reports of "unusual aerial sightings" are directed to their local police authority. What is the protocol for members of the defence forces when reporting such sightings during military operations and/or normal duty?

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson – The Department of Defence provides the following answer to the Senator's question:

### **1. The Department of Defence has not formally reviewed the report**

**The Department of Defence has not sort guidance on the publication**

**IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.**

### **2.**



**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 211111 - e-mail - s47E(c) - Input responses to QoN SQ21-001018  
**Date:** Thursday, 11 November 2021 11:34:15 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[FW Request for input Senate Estimates Question on Notice SQ21-001018 SECOFFICIAL.msg](#)  
[DRAFT Response - QON No.90 Item 4 SECOFFICIAL.msg](#)  
[FW Request for input Senate Estimates Question on Notice SQ21-001018 SECOFFICIAL.msg](#)  
[Response - QON No.90 Item 4 SECOFFICIAL.msg](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Good morning s47E(c)

As discussed, please find below responses to inform QoN SQ21-001018. Both DASA and JACC input has been cleared by s47E(c) (as a/DG DASA) and s47E(c) respectively. I have attached the emails for your reference and the FOI team emails regarding Question 4.

- 1. Has the Department of Defence had the opportunity to formally review the report completed by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence titled 'Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena' published in June 2021?**

The Department of Defence has not formally reviewed the subject document.

- 2. What guidance, if any, has the Department sought on the publication of the US report and the implications for Australian aerospace?**

**The Department of Defence has not sought guidance on the report.**

- 4. In 2011, the Department of Defence reported that, in response to a FOI request from the Sydney Morning Herald, it had discovered one file, which had not been destroyed by could not be located. If it could not be located, how would the Department know that the file had not been destroyed? Were all the files reference hardcopy only (i.e. not digital)?**

A file that was confirmed to be discovered in 2008 and its whereabouts were known to be kept at the National Archives of Australia, thus verifying it had not been destroyed by sighting the file. The interest of its location was raised again in 2011, however we were unable to verify its location nor held record of the file being destroyed. As such and to date, the Department of Defence cannot confirm nor deny its current existence.

Regards

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
RAAF MLO | RCDVS Support Team | Air Force  
Directorate of Strategic Issues Management  
Air Force Headquarters

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** RAAF MLO  
**Subject:** 211201.1332 - Email - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - MC21-004586 : Ministerial Correspondence - Request for formal proces for reporting Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon PDMS Notification - Record Assigned  
**Date:** Wednesday, 1 December 2021 1:32:24 PM

MLO. FYI we are likely going to formally push this back as a response for CASA and DASA as UAPs are a flight safety issue. Formal response to come

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Dec 2021, at 12:43 pm, noreply@pws.gov.au wrote:

**SEC=OFFICIAL**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

**PDR Record Assigned - [MC21-004586](#)**  
from s47E(c)  
to s47E(c)

**Status:**

**Draft**

**Subject:**

Ministerial Correspondence - Request for formal proces for reporting Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon

<b>Instruction:</b>	Good afternoon s47E(c) UAP/UFO Ministerial correspondence for your review and progression to s47E(c). s22 [Redacted] thanks!
---------------------	--

**Milestones:**

Due for **Clearance:** 06/12/2021 5:00 PM  
Due to **Parliamentary:** 07/12/2021 12:00 PM  
Due to **Minister's Office:** 07/12/2021 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on 02 6265 9192 or at [PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

**PDMS Notification Service**

*Please do not reply to this message.*

**SEC=OFFICIAL**

**From:** [noreply@pws.gov.au](mailto:noreply@pws.gov.au)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 211203.1316 - Email - noreply@pws.gov.au/RAAF MLO - MC21-004586 : Ministerial Correspondence - Request for formal proces for reporting Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon PDMS Notification - Record Assigned  
**Date:** Friday, 3 December 2021 1:16:51 PM

---

**SEC=OFFICIAL**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

**PDR Record Assigned - [MC21-004586](#)**

from **s47E(c)**  
to Air Force

**Status:**

**Draft**

**Subject:** Ministerial Correspondence - Request for formal proces for reporting Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon

<b>Instruction:</b>	MLO - DGSDR cleared response for back to you for further processing (not the change to DCAF as the clearance auth as this essentially a matter relating to air safety, vice capability.
---------------------	---

Due for **Clearance:** 06/12/2021 5:00 PM

**Milestones:** Due to **Parliamentary:** 07/12/2021 12:00 PM

Due to **Minister's Office:** 07/12/2021 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on 02 6265 9192 or at

[PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

**PDMS Notification Service**

*Please do not reply to this message.*

**SEC=OFFICIAL**

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of RAAF MLO  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c); RAAF MLO; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220111 - e-mail - s47E(c) - 220105 - 11:45 - Email - s47E(c) - Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 - s47E(c)  
**Date:** Tuesday, 11 January 2022 2:11:35 PM  
**Attachments:** image003.png  
[image003.png](#)

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi s47E(c)

s22

If you have any issues with putting it all together, I'm happy to help you with that.

Kind regards,  
s47E(c)

s47E(c)  
Deputy Director  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force

Email: [raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)  
s47E(c) s22

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 January 2022 1:13 PM  
**To:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 220105 - 11:45 - Email - s47E(c) - Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 - s47E(c) ~~(SEC-PROTECTED)~~

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi Team,

Could you pls create this for me. Thanks.

Regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Deputy Director Space – Navy

Email: s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) On Behalf Of RAAF MLO  
**Sent:** Friday, 7 January 2022 8:43 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 220105 - 11:45 - Email - s47E(c) - Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 - s47E(c) ~~(SEC-PROTECTED)~~

~~PROTECTED~~

Good morning s47E(c)

I cannot locate the MS21-002854 in PDMS. I do note MS21-002853 is in PDMS currently awaiting MO action.

You will unfortunately need a new ministerial submission in PDMS and we will not be able to use MSx2854. In order for me to create one for you accurately, please complete the attached file with all the particulars and return.

Regards

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
RAAF MLO | RCDVS Support Team | Air Force  
Directorate of Strategic Issues Management  
Air Force Headquarters  
Contractor to Defence

Phone: s47E(c) | Mobile: s22

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 7 January 2022 8:35 AM  
**To:** RAAF MLO <[raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: 220105 - 11:45 - Email - s47E(c) - Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 - s47E(c) ~~(SEC-PROTECTED)~~

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi Team,

s22

If it is a separate thing, then pls create the template for me.  
Thanks.

Regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Deputy Director Space – Navy

Email: s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 January 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220105 - 11:45 - Email - s47E(c) - Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 - s47E(c)

~~PROTECTED~~

Good morning s47E(c)

In addition to the list below, we have the additional tasking from OMINDEF:

- 2 page brief
- Outlines the key issues for DSpC, timelines and expected outcomes (ie announceables)
- Due 17 Jan 22

I'm aware we've already sent across an announceables MINSUB, so I expect a lot of the work is already done. Please draft a supplementary to that submission that builds on that MINSUB, includes space domain review plans and links with ASA plans for the ASMC. I'll look at where you get up to on Monday 10 Jan 22.

Regards,  
Kourou

s47E(c)

Director General Strategic Plans (Sp5/8)  
Defence Space Command

s47E(c) s22 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 23 December 2021 6:36 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** Space Domain Coord tasks as at 23 Dec 21 ~~SECRET~~

~~OFFICIAL~~

Good afternoon Sir and s47E(c)

Tabulated below is a non-exhaustive summary of tasks and their status as HOTO to s47E(c) and FYSA Sir. s22

s22

Regards,  
s47E(c)

Title	Lead	Summary	Status (orange please read, yellow ok and green is gone/FYSA)
s22			
UAP response letter	s47E(c)	MC21-004708 was drafted so MINDEF could respond to a letter on UAPs in objective	NFA
s22			

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#); [CASG Head Aerospace Systems Division Office](#); [CASG FAS RASSD Office](#); [RAAF PA](#); [Office of Defence Space Commander](#); [DGACC-AF Correspondence](#); [DGACE-AF Registry](#); [DGPERS-AF P&EAL](#); [RAAF MLO](#); s47E(c)  
[AF2021 Chief of Staff](#); s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220121:1242 e-mail To Many From s47E(c) RAAF Senate Estimates - February 2022 - 21 January 2022 Update (CAF Pre-Briefing Sessions)  
**Date:** Friday, 21 January 2022 12:42:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[CAF PRE-BRIEFING QUESTIONS SESSION 1.docx](#)  
[CAF PRE-BRIEFING QUESTIONS SESSION 3.1.docx](#)  
[CAF PRE-BRIEFING QUESTIONS SESSION 2.docx](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Sirs, Ma'ams, Ladies and Gents,

Thankyou for your support in preparing the Senate Estimate Briefs so far. As we approach the Senate Estimates sitting (week of 14 February); we will beginning our CAF Pre-Briefing Sessions.

s22



Session 1 – 0800h – 1000h, 27 Jan 22 s22 , UFOs, s22

s22



s22



Kind Regards,

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

W: s47E(c) M: s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0



IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22



**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220124 - e-mail - s47E(c) RAAF Senate Estimates - February 2022 - 21 January 2022 Update (CAF Pre-Briefing Sessions)  
**Date:** Monday, 24 January 2022 8:56:44 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[CAF PRE-BRIEFING QUESTIONS SESSION 3.1.docx](#)

---

Sure. I was planning on taking a look and doing some for the UFO stuff but I can roll some In for the wider space enterprise.

Sent from my iPhone

On 24 Jan 2022, at 8:27 am, s47E(c) wrote:

### OFFICIAL

s47E(c)

Can I steal your space expertise for a moment. MLO have asked us to update the SEB trial questions for CAF's pre-briefing sessions. They've sent through last years' as a starting point, can you take a look and get crafty and see if you can come up with a few that will stump CAF?

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Commander Defence Space Command

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices RUSSELL ACT 2610

Email: [officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au](mailto:officeofdefence.spacecommander@defence.gov.au)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22





**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 220125 - e-mail - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - RAAF Senate Estimates - February 2022 - 21 January 2022 Update (CAF Pre-Briefing Sessions)  
**Date:** Tuesday, 25 January 2022 9:10:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[CAF PRE-BRIEFING QUESTIONS SESSION 3.1 UAP.docx](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Hey MLO – UAP questions drafted as requested.  
I added it to the Space session, note that the questions that are struck out are not the current bank of questions for Space. You should be getting that separately.

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Defence Space Command

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22



**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220217 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - Emailing: Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625  
**Date:** Thursday, 17 February 2022 9:47:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625.pdf](#)

---

OFFICIAL

Gents,

FYSA in case UAP comes up at estimates and we need a fast answer on something- this is the US Report that gets referred to all the time, the SEB is based off this doc, but here it is in full.

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Preliminary-Assessment-UAP-20210625

Note: To protect against computer viruses, email programs may prevent you from sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your email security settings to determine how attachments are handled.  
IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220222 - e-mail - s47E(c)/RAAF MLO - SB21-001257 : Unidentified Flying Object/Unidentified Flying Phenomena PDMS Notification - Record Assigned  
**Date:** Tuesday, 22 February 2022 11:19:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Morning MLO,

s22

For SB21-001257 (UAPs), this one needs no further review – s22

s22

Sig Block

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** Defence Space Command - Space Capability Branch  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 February 2022 10:57 AM  
**To:** s47E(c) >  
**Subject:** FW: SB21-001257 : Unidentified Flying Object/Unidentified Flying Phenomena PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

s47E(c)

As discussed.

Kind regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to s47E(c); Director General Space Strategic Plans (Sp5)  
Defence Space Command

s47E(c)

| s22

| s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** noreply@pws.gov.au <noreply@pws.gov.au>

**Sent:** Friday, 18 February 2022 9:33 AM

**To:** s47E(c)

**Subject:** SB21-001257 : Unidentified Flying Object/Unidentified Flying Phenomena PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**SEC=OFFICIAL**



**PDR Record Assigned - [SB21-001257](#)**

from s47E(c)

to s47E(c)

**Status:**

**OVERDUE Revision**

**Subject:** Unidentified Flying Object/Unidentified Flying Phenomena

<b>Instruction:</b>	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>Please find attached a Senate Estimate Brief for Update.</p> <p>Request return to RAAF MLO with 1* clearance NLT COB Mon 28 Feb 22.</p> <p>RAAF MLO will then send to OHASD/ORASSD for CASG Line Area Review and HASD/RASSD Clearance.</p> <p>If any updates are required following Mon 28 Feb 22, please contact RAAF MLO to coordinate.</p> <p>When reviewing and updating the brief please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All changes are to be made in track changes and kept until final AFHQ 2* clearance.</li> <li>• Ensure content is consistent across any products developed, for example, if content has been previously used in a QB/QoN, the information should be consistent with the content in the SB.</li> </ul>
---------------------	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please ensure the brief is written at the OFFICIAL level. Where information is classified (and not able to be included within the brief) or not/not yet publicly disclosed – please indicate this within the brief by highlighting the information in red. This information will be removed from the final briefing pack when CAF goes into Estimates.</li><li>• RAAF MLO will update the QoNs, Media and FOI sections, however should you be aware of any contentious articles or response to QoNs that may generate questions, please ensure the brief includes content addressing these.</li><li>• RAAF Line Areas/CASG Line Areas will be able to continually update briefs as required, please contact RAAF MLO if you require for the brief to be updated outside of your allocated action period.</li></ul> <p>For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact RAAF MLO.</p> <p>Thanks RAAF MLO</p>
--	---

**Milestones:**

Due for **Clearance:** 24/01/2022 5:00 PM  
Due to **Parliamentary:** 24/01/2022 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on 02 6265 9192 or at [PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:PDMSTraining.andSupport@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

**PDMS Notification Service**

*Please do not reply to this message.*

**CC Recipients:**

s47E(c) [REDACTED]

**SEC=OFFICIAL**

**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [Office of Defence Space Commander](#); [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#); s47E(c)  
s47E(c) [RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 220228.1048 - Email - s47E(c)/Multiple Recipients - Senate Estimates Question on Notice (SQ22-000026) - Whish-Wilson  
**Date:** Monday, 28 February 2022 10:48:26 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[SQ22-000026 - Feb 22.docx](#)  
[SQ21-000906 - Oct 21.pdf](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Gents, s47E(c)

FYSA. RAAF MLO has received one Senate Estimates Question on Notice (QoN) from the Additional Estimates period in mid-Feb 22. The QoN is from Senator Whish-Wilson regarding UFOs/UAPs; though has a greater focus on safety/reporting over space issues. As the responsibility of UFOs/UAPs is still a bit fuzzy; I am doing a little bit of a widespread approach for general awareness. The QoN has been attached, as well as the response from last year's similar themed QoN.

At this time, HQAC and DASA are providing a response to the QoN – due to RAAF MLO for 1500h Tue 01 Mar 22. DCAF will clear ahead of CAF clearing the brief on Wed 03 Mar 22.

If you have any questions, please reach out to RAAF MLO.

Kind Regards,

**s47E(c)**  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) M: s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**OFFICIAL**

Defence Portfolio

**SENATE ESTIMATES QUESTION**

(Question No.29)

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 27 October 2021:

Air Marshal Hupfeld: None from any aircrew or aviation organisation that I'm aware of. The only experience that I have in this was over 40 years ago when some reports were made and we launched Mirage aircraft. The phenomena turned out to be errors on the radar screens in our normal civil air-traffic control system, but no physical objects were detected.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Does the characterisation of the DOD, in relation to their report, of both intent and advanced technology concern you? Basically, they're saying they can't explain what these things are, but they would like to better understand them.

Air Marshal Hupfeld: I can't answer for another sovereign nation. That is a matter for the US and the Pentagon and the Department of Defense in the US.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Would it be possible for you to see if, across the other services, there has been any kind of reporting system in relation to this in Australia?

Air Marshal Hupfeld: Certainly, I can take that on notice. But I feel confident that, as the airspace control authority within Australia, if there had been any detections or items such as this, I would have been aware of them. But I can take that on notice to double-check.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Okay. Typically, would something like Jindalee be able to pick-up fast-moving objects, or is it more designed to look at ships and—

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson – The Department of Defence provides the following answer to the Senator's question:

The Department of Defence does not have a protocol for reporting or recording of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena or Unidentified Flying Objects.

**OFFICIAL**

<b>Authorising Officer</b>	
Cleared by:	s22 Digitally signed by mel.hupfeld Date: 2021.11.15 11:02:54 +11'00'
Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld, AO DSC Chief of Air Force Air Force	
Date: 15 November 2021 Ph: s22	

**Contact Officer:** s47E(c), Head of Defence Space Division, Ph: s47E(c)



**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** [RAAF MLO](#); s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220304.1358 - Email - s47E(c) Multiple Recipients - Senate Estimate QoNs  
**Date:** Friday, 4 March 2022 1:58:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[SQ22-000026.pdf](#)  
[SQ21-000906 - Oct 21 \(associated with SQ22-000026\).pdf](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Sirs, all;

Thankyou for your contributions towards the UFO QoN, for your information please find attached the CAF approved response.

I will include this into this information into Senate Estimate briefing material.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) M: s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) > **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 3 March 2022 2:04 PM  
**To:** s47E(c) >  
**Cc:** RAAF MLO <raaf.mlo@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** Senate Estimate QoNs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Ma'am,

As discussed, please find attached the 4 QoNs submitted to Air Force following the most recent

Senate Estimates. Brief has been cleared through relevant 2\* and CASG. A brief description of QoNs are as below;

	<b>PDR</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	SQ22-000026	Senator Whish-Wilson	UFOs/RAAF Safety Protocols.  Note. I have attached the related QoN from last year for reference (SQ21-000906)
s22	[Redacted]		

Request CAF's digital signature on the briefs, for return to RAAF MLO NLT 1300h Fri 04 Mar 22.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c) [Redacted]

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) [Redacted] M: s22 [Redacted] | s47E(c) [Redacted] | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0 [Redacted]

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c) [redacted] on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Cc:** [CASG Head Aerospace Systems Division Office; RAAF MLO](#)  
**Subject:** 220304.1402 - Email - s47E(c)/Multiple Recipients - Senate Estimate QoNs  
**Date:** Friday, 4 March 2022 2:02:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[SQ22-000105.pdf](#)  
[SQ22-000084.pdf](#)  
[SQ22-000087.pdf](#)  
[SQ21-000906 - Oct 21 \(associated with SQ22-000026\).pdf](#)  
[SQ22-000026.pdf](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Sir/ s47E(c) [redacted]

Attached are the CAF cleared QoNs, with nil changes from DG-ACC clearance.

Passing on feedback from CAF, that he was especially happy with the F35 flying hours QoN.

Thanks for the support.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c) [redacted]  
Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) [redacted] M: s22 [redacted] | s47E(c) [redacted] | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610  
Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22

s22



**From:** s47E(c) on behalf of [RAAF MLO](#)  
**To:** [RAAF MLO](#); s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
  
; [AF2021 Chief of Staff](#); s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
  
**Cc:** [CASG Head Aerospace Systems Division Office](#); [Office of Defence Space Commander](#); [CASG FAS RASSD Office](#); [Head of Air Force Capability Office](#); [DGPERS-AF P&EAL](#); [RAAF MLO](#); [RAAF PA](#)  
**Subject:** 220316.0811 - Email - s47E(c)/Multiple Recipients - RAAF Senate Estimates - April 2022 - 16 March 2022 Update  
**Date:** Wednesday, 16 March 2022 8:11:45 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[RAAF Senate Estimates Tracker - 16 Mar 22.xlsx](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Good morning Sirs, Ma'ams et. al,

Please see an update on RAAF Senate Estimate Brief preparations;

### Key Information

- **The Department of Defence are likely to appear before Senate Estimates on Friday 01 April 2022 from 0900h to 1430. Additional day is scheduled for Wednesday 06 April, 0900h to 1730h.** The dates that Defence will appear will be confirmed in the preceding week.
- All Senate Estimate Briefs have been cleared and reviewed by RAAF and CASG SLG. They are up to date on PDMS and on the Digital Workspace.

### Pre-Briefing Sessions

- Pre-Briefing Sessions will occur only in the week of Mon 28 Mar to Thu 31 Mar 22; due to competing priorities and events balanced with the expectation of questions being directed towards RAAF. Also noting that Estimate Briefs have had minor changes since February Senate Estimates, and that over the past three Senate Estimates, Air Force has had less than 5% questions directed to them.
- Pre-Briefing Session invitations will be sent out from OCAF. CAF and 2\*s/Band 2s (RAAF and CASG) will be attending all sessions. Relevant 1\* and O6s will also be invited, as required.
- Unlike previous preparations, the upcoming Pre-Briefing Sessions will focus on the top ten topics of the day, and will provide an opportunity for CAF and relevant 2\*s to prepare in a mock set up being questioned on the Senate Estimate Briefs.

- Topics will include; s22 UFOs,  
s22

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer  
Ministerial Liaison Office – Air Force  
Directorate Strategic Issues Management

s47E(c) M: s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

Group Mailbox: [RAAF MLO](#) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**RAAF SENATE ESTIMATES TOPIC TRACKER**

		PDMS Details			Stakeholders		
	Title	Project Number	Current PDR (CAF Brief)	Current PDR (SEC/CDF Brief)	Staff Officer	Desk Officer	
S22	AIRCRAFT						
S22	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL						
S22	SPACE						
20	Unidentified Flying Object/Unidentified Flying Phenomena		SB21-001257				
S22	AIR DEFENCE						
S22	AIR COMBAT and WEAPONS						
S22	WORKFORCE						
S22	EVENTS						
S22	HOT TOPICS						

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220422 - 14:52 - Email - s47E(c) - FOI 408/21/22 - Request for TP's s47E(c)  
**Date:** Friday, 22 April 2022 2:52:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s47E(c)

I just came looking for you to discuss.  
I'm happy with most of the TP's, except two:

- If an Unidentified Aerial Phenomena posed a risk to military flight safety, the Defence Aviation **Safety** Authority has safety reporting mechanisms in place to capture such an event. (Missing the word **Safety**)
- If an Unidentified Aerial Phenomena posed a risk to National Security, that would be the purview of our Intelligence community.- s47C

s22  
s47E(c), so can you please update and send this through to s47E(c) for Band 1 clearance on Tuesday? Or maybe s47E(c) can just clear this one?

Thanks

s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 April 2022 2:04 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** FW: FOI 408/21/22 - Request for TP's [SEC=OFFICIAL]



**OFFICIAL**

s47E(c)

As discussed here are the TPs drafted ISO the FOI request. AFHQ FOI Officer has gathered the data for the FOI proper (Binder 1 attached), our input is to provide TPs for MINDEF in the event this become a media sensitive issue.

s47E(c) had previously had the hammer on this as DGSDR – but his direction is to transition this to Strat Plans – if we can't push future iterations of to Air Force or DASA.

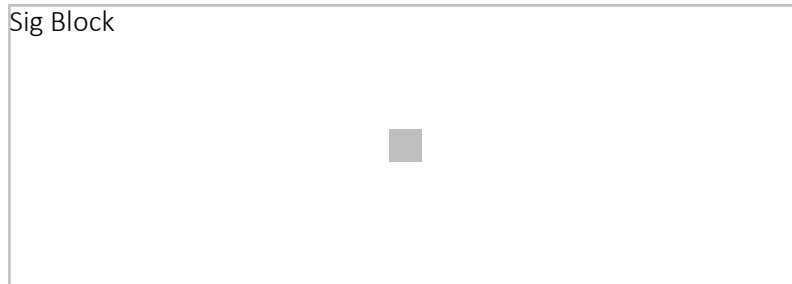
**Request you review and clear the 220422 – Media and Sensitive Talking Points – FOI408/21/22 and return to s47E(c) by COB 28 Apr.**

I've attached supporting documents, those being:

SQ21-00906 and SQ21-001018; the QoNs and their responses at the centre of this FOI request SB21-001257; the SEB that was drafted for the latest round of Senate Estimates – this document is not part of the FOI, it's merely for our reference regarding the latest information on this topic.

s47E(c) – FYSA only, I can back brief you if needed in slow time.

Sig Block



**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 April 2022 12:10 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** RAAF FOI <[raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au](mailto:raaffoi@dpe.protected.mil.au)>  
**Subject:** FOI 408/21/22 - Request for TP's [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s47E(c)

Thanks for your time on the phone this morning.

As discussed, would you please draft TP's to go with the attached Draft Statement of Reasons and prepared documents for release (binder 1).

We would be grateful to receive TP's by **COB Friday 28 April 2022**. Attached are the media sensitive TP template along with the MIN Alert process.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Cheers

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

FOI Manager – Directorate Strategic Issues Management - Air Force Headquarters

 s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL ACT 2610

 [Chief of Staff AFHQ - Freedom of Information](#)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**To:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Cc:** s47E(c) [redacted]  
**Subject:** 220426 - e-mail - s47E(c) [redacted] - FOI 408/21/22 - Request for TP"s  
**Date:** Tuesday, 26 April 2022 4:00:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [S - FS - MIN Alert Processes for ADM alias.pdf](#)  
[FOI 408 21 22 - DRAFT Statement of Reasons.doc](#)  
[FOI 425 21 22 - Binder1.pdf](#)  
[SB21-001257.docx](#)  
[SQ21-000906.docx](#)  
[SQ21-001018.docx](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[220422 - Media and Sensitive Talking Points - FOI408-21-22.docx](#)  
[SB21-001257 DG cleared \(not PDMS\).docx](#)  
[image002.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

Sir,

Attached is the doc suite ISO the FOI request we had. I got an update to say we needed to change the template to a caretaker version, hence why it's different from what I sent s47E(c) on Friday.

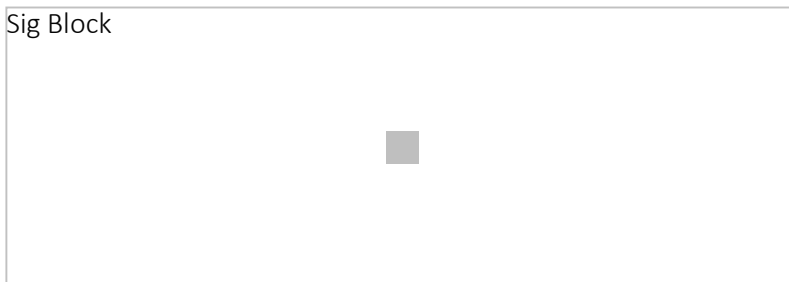
We aren't providing the actual FOI info, AFHQ has that covered (Binder1 PDF) just the TPs, now departmental vice ministerial due to caretaker govt.

I've included:

SQ21-00906 and SQ21-001018; the QoNs and their responses at the centre of this FOI request SB21-001257; the SEB that was drafted for the latest round of Senate Estimates – this document is not part of the FOI, it's merely for our reference regarding the latest information on this topic. I've also included the version of 1257 that had our if asked responses added – that got at least cleared by s47E(c) [redacted], but was subsequently culled along the route to CAF – I've pulled the question/responses out of that document.

I've not yet added this into Obj, I was waiting out for s47E(c) [redacted] to confirm where in your Branch structure it was to go..

Sig Block



**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

s22

## CONTENTS

Notes.....	2
Key Messages .....	2
<b>Process/Protocol to Report UAP/UFO in Australian Air Space (Answers from previous QoNs).....</b>	<b>2</b>
Timeline of Significant Events/Decisions.....	4
Relevant Media Coverage .....	4
Relevant Media Enquires .....	5
Relevant Ministerial Comments .....	5
Questions on Notice.....	6
Estimates QoNs .....	6
Other QoNs.....	6
Freedom of Information.....	6
Contact and Clearance Offices.....	7

## Notes

## Key Messages

- Defence does not have a policy governing the reporting or recording of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) by either members of the public or Defence members.
- The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) ceased the handling of reports of UAP in 1996 after determining there was no scientific or other compelling reason to continue to devote resources to the recording and investigation of UAP.
- Defence safety of flight incidents, including those potentially posed by UAP are handled by the Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA), with civilian safety of flight incidents the purview of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

## Process/Protocol to Report UAP/UFO in Australian Air Space [\(Answers from previous QoNs\)](#)

- Under RAAF Aviation Reporting protocols, there has been no records of observations or sightings of unidentified aircraft over past ten years.
- Any unidentified aircraft identified by Air Force pilots or personnel entering military controlled airspace or pose a safety risk to military aircraft are subject to RAAF Aviation Safety Reporting protocols.
- There is no specific encouragement given to pilots to report aircraft they cannot identify, rather to report unusual or unexpected events through RAAF Aviation Safety Reporting procedures.
- Defence safety of flight incidents, including those potentially posed by UAP are handled by the Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA), with civilian safety of flight incidents the purview of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

## Timeline of Significant Events/Decisions

Date	Event
25 June 2021	Release of <i>Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena</i> by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence
13 November 2000	DI(G) ADMIN 55-1 outlining ADF policy on Unusual Aerial Policy is cancelled, and not replaced.
27 August 1996	DI(G) ADMIN 55-1 is amended to cease the reporting of unusual aerial sightings to the RAAF.

## Relevant Media Coverage

Date	Source	Item
16 February 2022	Nine Network Australia	<a href="#">Under Investigation: Are we alone? After landmark UFO report, one question remains</a>
10 November 2021	The Sun	<a href="#">TIC TAC WOE Fighter pilots who intercept UFOs may suffer radiation burns &amp; experience warped time, Pentagon insider fears</a>
9 November 2021	GQ UK	<a href="#">This man ran the Pentagon's secretive UFO programme for a decade. We had some questions.</a>
29 October 2021	The Australian	<a href="#">For Defence, UFOs exist only in a distant galaxy</a>

28 October 2021	ABC News	<a href="#">Defence won't follow Pentagon to launch an investigation into UFO sightings or Unexplained Aerial Phenomena</a>
25 October 2021	Remo News	<a href="#">The NASA leader suggests that UFOs may be aliens</a>

### Relevant Media Enquires

Date	Event
Nil	Nil

### Relevant Ministerial Comments

Date	Minister	Details
Nil	Nil	Nil

## Questions on Notice

### Estimates QoNs

Hearing	Date	Senator – Question #	Broad Topic
Additional Estimates, Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	25 February 2022	Peter Whish-Wilson - QON 20	Unexplained Aerial Phenomena
Supplementary Budget Estimates, Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	27 October 2021	Peter Whish-Wilson - <a href="#">QON 90</a>	Unexplained Aerial Phenomena

### Other QoNs

Committee Inquiry	Senator – Question #	Broad Topic
Nil	Nil	Nil

### Freedom of Information

Request Date	Who	Relating to	Documents released
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



**Contact and Clearance Offices**

<p><b>Clearing Officer</b></p>	<p>s47E(c) [Redacted]           Commander Defence Space Command</p>	<p>Air Force</p>	<p>s22 [Redacted]</p>
<p><b>Consultation</b></p>	<p>s47E(c) [Redacted]          Assistant Secretary Strategic Capabilities Policy Development           s47E(c) [Redacted]          Director General Systems and Integration           s47E(c) [Redacted] STaR Shot Leader – Resilient Multi-mission Space</p>	<p>Strategy, Policy and Industry Group           Army           Defence Science Technology Group</p>	<p>s22 [Redacted]           s22 [Redacted]           s22 [Redacted]</p>
<p><b>Contact Officer</b></p>	<p>s47E(c) [Redacted]           Director General Space Capability</p>	<p>Air Force</p>	<p>s22 [Redacted]</p>

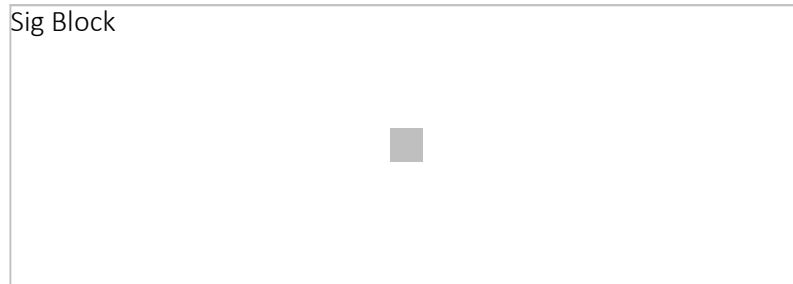
**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** 220513 - e-mail - s47E(c)/Many - UAPs  
**Date:** Friday, 13 May 2022 1:34:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image007.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

---

**OFFICIAL**

s47E(c) – no need, I drafted all the UAP points for MECC/RAAF.

Sig Block



IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2022 12:23 PM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: UAPs [SEC-~~OFFICIAL~~]

**OFFICIAL**

I do know MECC/RAAF have prepared lines for UAP, be there any attention. Would you like me to pull these for you?

s47E(c)  
**Strategic Communications and Content Specialist**

**Defence Space Command**

s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
Mobile: s22  
E-mail: s47E(c)  
Alternate E-mail: s22

-

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2022 7:49 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: UAPs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Sir, ack. I know historically we have aimed to push the response off to Air Force, specifically DASA if the main theme of questioning is about aircraft/flight safety. Similarly we could aim to push the response to the Intelligence community/Airforce if the main theme is national security / advanced technologies / control of the air.

The name is Unidentified *Aerial* Phenomenon after all and the USSF isn't the lead US agency for this. s47C

Sig Block

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c)  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2022 7:39 AM  
**To:** s47E(c)  
**Cc:** s47E(c)  
**Subject:** Re: UAPs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47E(c) you're right, it may trigger more UFO flavoured interest.

The truth is out there, I'll just need to determine if interest in this sci-fi is a HAC or CDSpC lead.

Regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

s47E(c) Director Space Coordination and Engagement  
Strategic Plans Branch, Australian Defence Space Command

s47E(c) Fairbairn Business Park, ACT, 2609

s47E(c) M: s22 Email: s47E(c)

On 13 May 2022, at 7:03 am, s47E(c)  
wrote:

## OFFICIAL

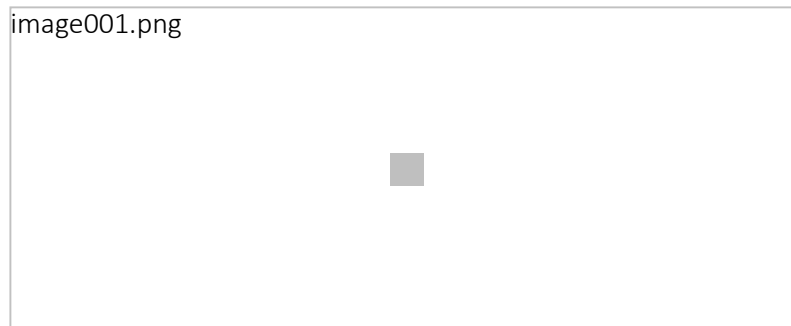
Sir,

All jokes aside, I think this might end up causing us some work.

This article calls out AUKUS directly regarding a more collaborative approach to this...

<https://www.iflscience.com/policy/first-public-congressional-hearing-on-ufos-in-50-years-set-for-next-week-heres-how-to-watch/>

image001.png



**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** s47E(c) [REDACTED]  
**To:** s47E(c) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 220519 - e-mail - s47E(c) [REDACTED] - ABC News: US Congress holds first hearing on UFOs in decades  
**Date:** Thursday, 19 May 2022 7:19:19 AM

---

**Wait for it, wait for it....**

### **US Congress holds first hearing on UFOs in decades**

The US Congress has held its first hearing in half a century on UFOs, and no, there is still no government confirmation of extraterrestrial life. [Read the full story](#)

Shared from [ABC app](#)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** s47E(c)  
**To:** RAAF PA; Space Domain Headquarters; s47E(c)  
**Cc:** Navy Media; s47E(c); SP&IMedia; Head of Air Force Capability Office; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: FOR RAAF ACTION - Priority 2 media enquiry - 21-1441 - ABC News - Report to US Congress of UAPs - 14:00, Thursday 24 June 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 23 June 2021 11:30:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

## OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

Very happy to take a look at it, but unlikely we'll have input. The Space teams in RAAF and SP are pretty well connected, so I'd appreciate if it can be noted if SP has been consulted at the working level. I'll also flag with the US team in IP, but I can't see this response straying into their area.

Cheers,

s47E(c) | Strategic Communications Advisor  
**SPI Group** | Department of Defence

---

Russell Offices | Canberra ACT 2600

M: s22

E: s47E(c)

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

---

**From:** s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF PA  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 June 2021 11:23 AM  
**To:** s47E(c); Space Domain Headquarters  
<space.domain@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
**Cc:** Navy Media <navy.media@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
s47E(c) SP&IMedia <sp&i.media@defence.gov.au>; RAAF PA  
<raaf.pa@defence.gov.au>; Head of Air Force Capability Office  
<head.airforcecapability@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)  
s47E(c)  
**Subject:** RE: FOR RAAF ACTION - Priority 2 media enquiry - 21-1441 - ABC News - Report to US Congress of UAPs - 14:00, Thursday 24 June 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

## OFFICIAL

**Space Domain,** Hi Sir and Team,

- As discussed, would appreciate a draft response to subj ME – see questions from Matthew Eaton, ABC News below.
- Good news – it's priority 2 so we have more time!
- I have attached for your ref corro pertaining to our last ME on this topic

- As also discussed, contained in the corro is s47E(c) recommendation that future responses should include 'what Air Force does do in terms tracking in Air and Space, to reinforce the messaging of Air and Space integration'

**SP&I,** s47E(c) Will need an SP&I consult on this one.

**Navy,** Won't need your input for this one. The article linked, and the story as reported more broadly, relates to sightings by US Naval [fighter] Aviators only. We'll address this generically in the response.

**SO HAC, SO DGADS/DGSDR,** Ma'am, s47E(c) Heads up incoming – will consult you both separately to establish a timeline for one-star review and endorsement, and HAC clearance ahead of the submission deadline of 1400 h tomorrow Thu 24 Jun.

**Question:**

You're probably aware of a report due to be delivered to the US Congress around June 25 on what the US government knows in relation to unidentified aerial phenomena (otherwise known as UFOs).

The ABC published this story on the matter earlier this month:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-04/us-government-finds-no-evidence-aerial-sightings-were-ufos/100191126>

Is there any similar move to gather information within Australia's Department of Defence?

Will you be taking an interest in the declassified report when it is eventually made public?

Is this topic under active investigation by any arm of the Australian Defence Force?

Given many of the sightings of unidentified phenomena involve US naval activity, have any similar sightings been reported by Australian navy personnel?

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

SO3 Public Affairs – Air Force Headquarters  
RAAF Public Affairs

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610

Banner

**IMPORTANT:** This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

**From:** Media <[media@defence.gov.au](mailto:media@defence.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 23 June 2021 11:07 AM  
**To:** RAAF PA <[raaf.pa@defence.gov.au](mailto:raaf.pa@defence.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Media <[media@defence.gov.au](mailto:media@defence.gov.au)>; Navy Media <[navy.media@defence.gov.au](mailto:navy.media@defence.gov.au)>; s47E(c)  
s47E(c) SP&IMedia  
<[sp&i.media@defence.gov.au](mailto:sp&i.media@defence.gov.au)>; s47E(c)  
**Subject:** FOR RAAF ACTION - Priority 2 media enquiry - 21-1441 - ABC News - Report to US Congress of UAPs - 14:00, Thursday 24 June 2021 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good morning RAAF,

s47E(c) - Thank you for your time on the phone. As discussed, please see the below media enquiry for your action.

**Navy** – FYSA and for input on the final question if required.

**SP&I** – FYSA.

Line areas **must** ensure they consult with other line areas as required, on their proposed response before sending to Defence Media ahead of the listed deadline. **Please list the line areas consulted in the clearance table below.**

Detailed background to assist those clearing the response **must** be provided in the table below, at same time as the proposed response, ahead of the listed deadline.

<b>21-1441 - ABC News - Report to US Congress of UAPs</b>	
<b>PRIORITY 2</b>	
<b>Deadline to Defence Media:</b>	<b>14:00 Thursday 24 June 2021</b>
<b>Journalist/outlet:</b>	Matthew Eaton, ABC News
<b>Responsible Group/Service:</b>	RAAF
<b>Final Clearance:</b>	OSEC/OCDF
<b>Question:</b> You're probably aware of a report due to be delivered to the US Congress around June 25 on what the US government knows in relation to unidentified aerial phenomena (otherwise known as UFOs).  The ABC published this story on the matter earlier this month: <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-04/us-government-finds-no-evidence-aerial-sightings-were-ufos/100191126">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-04/us-government-finds-no-evidence-aerial-sightings-were-ufos/100191126</a>  Is there any similar move to gather information within Australia's Department of Defence?  Will you be taking an interest in the declassified report when it is eventually made public?  Is this topic under active investigation by any arm of the Australian Defence Force?  Given many of the sightings of unidentified phenomena involve US naval activity, have any similar	



sightings been reported by Australian navy personnel?

**Response:**

***The following statement can be attributed to a Defence spokesperson:***

- Please prepare a statement, not question/answer format unless agreed prior with Defence Media.
- Please ensure information provided is unclassified and for public release.
- By default all responses are attributed to 'a Defence spokesperson'. Please indicate if the response should be attributed to a specific representative.

**Background (for journalist) – Not for attribution**

*Please insert relevant background for the journalist.*

**Background (Defence Media to provide groups/services to assist preparing a response):**

- Nil.

**Background (Groups/Services need to provide background to assist clearing of responses, particularly for the Minister's office. This is NOT for public release/NOT for journalist):**

*It is the responsibility of the business area to provide a brief background into the media topic/issue using the questions as a guide.*

- *Is this information already in the public domain? If so, where?*
- *Has the media previously asked questions on this topic? If so, what was the response?*
- *Was this mentioned in Parliament or at senate estimates recently?*
- *Was this as a result of a policy decision or legislative change?*
- *Is this in relation to a recent incident that occurred in Australia or overseas?*
- *Have any of the groups or services seen this request? If so, what was their instruction?*

**CLEARANCES**

	Name	Appointment/Role	Contact Number	Date and Time
Drafting officer				
Contact officer				
Additional line area consulted and contact				
Additional line area consulted and contact				
Additional line area consulted and contact				
Strategic Comms Advisor				
Group/Service 2 Star or above				

Kind regards,

s47E(c)

**Defence Media** | Department of Defence

---

M: s47E(c)

E: [media@defence.gov.au](mailto:media@defence.gov.au)

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

## CAF Pre-Briefing Questions – Session 3.1

### Unidentified Aerial Phenomena

- If Defence member sees a UAP while flying, training etc, how do they report that?
- When did the formal recording or reporting of UAP stop, why?
- Do you see the need to create a task force like the United States to track and investigate these potential UAP threats?
- Do UAP pose a threat to Australian National security?
- Are UAP a risk to our RAAF pilots and or civilian aircraft?
- Are UAP super advanced weapons from other nations?
- Should we be doing more to take this seriously?
- What do you think these UAP are?
- Does Australia collaborate or share information on UAP with other nations, like our allies?