

Budget Estimates June 2024

Last updated: 8 April 2024

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Key witnesses: Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Professor Tanya Monro

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects

Handling Note:

- Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Chief of Air Force, to lead on topic.
- Professor Tanya Monro, Chief Defence Scientist to lead on Defence Science and Technology Group activities related to Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena.

Key Messages

- Defence does not have a specific policy governing the reporting or recording of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) by either members of the public or Defence members. It relies on existing reporting mechanisms.
- Air Force ceased handling reports of the then-termed Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) in 1996 after determining there was no scientific or other compelling reason to continue.
- Existing Defence procedures and mechanisms already enable the reporting of all aerial Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena.

Talking Points

- Defence continues to assess that there is no compelling reason to divert resources to the specific recording and investigation of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena. This assessment aligns resources with the priorities, mission and objectives of Defence.
- There are well established procedures utilised by military and civilian air traffic controllers, and aircrew, for the management and reporting of airspace infringements—that is the unauthorised entry of an aircraft into airspace that is either prohibited, or where clearance is required—and unknown aircraft. There are also equally well established military and civilian mechanisms for the reporting of incidents that pose a risk to aviation safety.
- Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance capabilities, control and reporting system and procedures also enable our aircrew and air battle managers to gain awareness and communicate with higher headquarters and the Air Operations Centre (AOC). Intelligence Officers are resident at unit, headquarters and AOC levels in case deeper analysis is warranted.
- The United States (US) Department of Defense (DoD) considers that ‘anomalous detections’ include, but are not limited to, phenomena that demonstrate apparent capabilities or material that exceed known performance envelopes. There have been no reports of Air Force observations or sightings over the past ten years that would meet this definition.

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Name: Air Marshal Robert Chipman

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- Defence is aware of the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) within the US DoD and monitor their reports.
- Defence takes all threats to aviation safety or national security very seriously and has continuous reviews of our reporting systems to ensure they remain suitable. Noting the multiple reporting mechanisms already in place, there would need to be UAP reporting of sufficient volume and credibility to justify consideration of allocating resources to establish a body similar to the AARO in the Australian context.
- Defence is aware of the reporting on 19 April 2023 that the AARO is examining a number of cases; however AARO has also stated that in their research they have found no credible evidence of extra-terrestrial activity, off-world technology, or objects that defy the known laws of physics.
- The AARO stated that a very small percentage of UAP reports display signatures that could be reasonably be described as 'anomalous'. The majority of reports they have examined demonstrate mundane characteristics of balloons, unmanned aerial systems, clutter, natural phenomena or other readily explainable sources.
- Defence Science and Technology Group does not conduct specific research and development on UAP and is currently not funded to do so. Defence Science and Technology Group supports Air Force in that there is no scientific reason to conduct research on UAP.
- Defence Science and Technology Group provides support to the ADF to identify and classify objects detected by sensing technology and has projects that are aligned with the requirements of the Defence Strategic Review to improve sensing and intelligence gathering in support of Australia's interests.
- Defence Science and Technology Group works with Allied Scientists however, to date has not collaborated on UAP; nor has there been any indication that collaboration would be of benefit. Specifically, Defence Science and Technology Group collaborates closely with the USAF Air Force Research Laboratory through the Air Senior National Representative forum who have not placed any priority on collaboration in UAP.
- To ensure a whole-of-government approach to the identification and investigation of UAP, NASA recommended the provision of training to commercial pilots on the use of the NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System. Use of this program by commercial pilots, alongside the existing measures undertaken by Defence, will increase visibility of aviation safety incidences being reported which would be valuable for enhancing the understanding of UAP.

If raised: has the US shared intelligence regarding UAP?

- Defence will continue to monitor AARO reporting on UAP, especially if UAP are deemed to be a security or safety threat.

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Background

- On 8 March 2024, the US DoD delivered to Congress the initial volume of the AARO's Historical Record Report that reviewed the records of the US Government pertaining to UAP. To date, the AARO has found no verifiable evidence that claims that the US government or private companies have access to or have been reverse-engineering extra-terrestrial technology.
- The report also found no evidence that any US Government investigations, academic-sponsored research or official review panel has confirmed that any sighting of UAP represented extra-terrestrial technology. All investigative efforts at all levels of classification concluded that most sightings were ordinary objects or phenomena and the result of misidentification. AARO also assessed that the alleged names of alleged hidden reverse-engineering programs do not exist and are misidentified authentic national security programs that are not related to extra-terrestrial technology exploitation or resolve to a de-established program.
- On 14 September 2023, the NASA UAP Independent Study Team commissioned on 9 June 2022, published its final report. While the AARO leads the US whole-of-government response to UAP, the team recommended that NASA play an essential role within that framework. The team's overall recommendation for NASA from its report was that the agency plays a prominent role in the government's effort to understand UAP by furthering the study and data collection of UAP.
- **A summary of the report's key points follow:**
 - Despite numerous accounts and visuals, the absence of consistent, detailed and curated observations means the NASA UAP Independent Study Team does not presently have the body of data needed to make definitive, scientific conclusions about UAP.
 - The study team found no evidence that reported UAP observations are extra-terrestrial.
 - The panel found that public engagement in the effort to better understand UAP will be vital and that NASA lending its name to UAP studies is already helping to reduce stigma associated with reporting. NASA recommended that beyond this, exploration into the viability of developing or acquiring a crowdsourcing system, such as open-source smartphone apps to gather imaging data and other smartphone sensor data from multiple citizen observers as part of a wider effort to more systemically gather public UAP reports.
 - NASA recommended that their Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS)—which collects, analyses, and responds to voluntarily submitted aviation safety incident reports in order to lessen the likelihood of aviation accidents—be harnessed to collect commercial pilot UAP reporting to provide a database that would be valuable for the whole-of-government effort to understand UAP

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- . On 31 August 2023, the United States Department of Defense launched a website for the AARO to provide the public with information concerning the AARO and its efforts to understand and resolve UAP. The website will provide information, including photos and videos on resolved UAP cases as they are declassified and approved for public release.
- . On 19 April 2023, Dr Sean M Kirkpatrick, Director of the AARO, testified at the Senate Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities hearing on the mission, activities, oversight and budget of the AARO.
- . A US DoD article published the same day summarises Dr Kirkpatrick's testimony as follows:
 - All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office scientists continue to improve their data collection and implementation of rigorous scientific and intelligence analysis to resolve cases in a systematic and prioritised manner.
 - Only a very small percentage of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena reports display signatures that could be reasonably be described as 'anomalous'. The majority of reports demonstrate mundane characteristics of balloons, unmanned aerial systems, clutter, natural phenomena or other readily explainable resources.
 - The All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office have found no credible evidence thus far of extra-terrestrial activity, off-world technology, or objects that defy the known laws of physics.
- . On 11 January 2023, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence delivered the Annual Report on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (now Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena) to Congress as required by their National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.
- . The Report outlines that:
 - Unidentified Aerial Phenomena continue to represent a hazard to flight safety and pose a possible adversary collection threat.
 - Since their publication of their preliminary assessment in June 2021, Unidentified Aerial Phenomena reporting has increased, however could be attributed to a concentrated effort to destigmatise the topic.
 - The All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office has been established as the United States Department of Defense focal point for Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.
 - Coordinated efforts between the United States Department of Defense and other Government agencies to collect and report Unidentified Aerial Phenomena events have resulted in increased data sets, spanning multiple security domains.

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- On 15 July 2022 the US Deputy Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, amended her original direction to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security by renaming and expanding the scope of the Airborne Object Identification and Management Group to the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO). The AARO was charged with serving as the authoritative office dealing not just aerial phenomena but all anomalous, unidentified space, airborne, submerged and transmedium objects activities for the DoD
- On 25 June 2021, the United States Office of the Director of National Intelligence released a Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (the Report) to provide an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by Unidentified Aerial Phenomena and the progress the United States Department of Defense Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force has made in understanding this threat.

Supporting information

Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates: 25 October 2023

- In QoN 690, **Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena**, Senator Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked a series of questions regarding the Defence Aviation Safety Authority protocols for recording and reporting of “unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP)/unidentified flying objects (UFO)”.

Budget Estimates: 30-31 May 2023

- In QoN 91, **Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena**, Senator Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked a series of follow up questions following Estimates 15 February 2023, on the topic of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena.

Supplementary Budget Estimates: 9 November 2022

- In QoN 28, **Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**, Senator Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked whether the Royal Australian Air Force had held discussions with the United States on the topic of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.

Budget Estimates: 19 April 2022

- In QoN 38, **Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**, Senator Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked for advice regarding the Royal Australian Air Force Aviation Safety Reporting and for reports of “unusual or unexpected events” in the past 20 years.

Additional Budget Estimates: 25 February 2022

- In QoN 20, **Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**, Senator Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked for advice on existing processes or protocols within the Royal Australian Air Force regarding unidentified aircraft.

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Supplementary Budget Estimates: 27 October 2021

- In QoN 29, **Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**, Senator Peter Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked for advice on existing processes or protocols within the Royal Australian Air Force regarding unidentified aircraft.

Supplementary Budget Estimates: 27 October 2021

- In QoN 90, **Unidentified Aerial Phenomena**, Senator Peter Whish-Wilson (Green, Tasmania) asked for advice regarding a report published June 2021 by the United States Office of the Director of National Intelligence titled 'Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena'.

Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests

- Air Force continues to receive a number of FOIs on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena from constituents.

Recent Ministerial Comments

- No recent comments.

Relevant Media Reporting

- On 11 February 2024, the Canberra Times published an article titled [After denials, Defence admits to UFO briefing](#). Journalist Jamieson Murphy reported that Defence misled Senators stating that the Department of Defence did not do its homework before responding to the Senator Peter Whish-Wilson's question on notice in the May Senate estimates.
- On 26 January 2024, CNN published an online article titled [Opinion: The actual hidden truth about UFOs](#) by journalist Peter Bergen. The article writes of a former Pentagon official, David Grusch, and his public allegation that the United States government have been keeping crashed alien spaceships under wraps for decades.
- On 22 October 2023, The Canberra Times published an article titled ['The truth is out there': Australia accused of treating UFO threat as a 'piss-take'](#) by journalist Jamieson Murphy. The author quotes Grant Levac and Ross Coulthard, and asserts that Australia is out of step with Five Eyes nations by not taking Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) seriously. The article further refers to Mr Levac's e-petition to Government calling for a UAP sighting policy, and alleges that Australian Defence Personnel are reticent to report UAP due fear of ridicule.

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- On 17 September 2023, numerous media agencies published an article titled [Fresh calls for Australian Government to conduct UFO review as sightings continue](#). The article discusses a petition presented to the Australian Government asking the House of Representatives “to conduct a formal review of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) and consider the establishment of an investigatory body to assess the potential national security threats and safety of flight risks that UAP pose”.
- On 15 September 2023, The ABC published article titled [NASA releases UAP report, says more data and scientific techniques are needed to better understand UFOs](#). Journalist Jenny Cai wrote of the released NASA report which found no evidence that the reported sightings had ‘extra-terrestrial origins’.

Air Force	
PDR No: SB24-000023	
Prepared by: s47E(c) RAAF Ministerial Liaison Office Directorate Strategic Issues Management Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c) Date: 19 March 2024	Cleared by Division Head: Air Vice- Marshal Wendy Blyth Head of Air Force Capability Air Force Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c) Date: 8 April 2024
Consultation: Headquarters Air Command Australia Air Vice-Marshal Glen Braz Air Commander Australia	Date: 26 March 2024 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Consultation: Air Force Headquarters Air Vice- Marshal Harvey Reynolds Deputy Chief of Air Force	Date: 4 April 2024 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Consultation: Defence Science & Technology Group Mr Andrew Seedhouse, Chief of Space, Intelligence, National Security & Cyber Division	Date: 2 April 2024 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Cleared by Deputy Secretary (or equivalent Band 3/3*): Date: 22 April 2024 Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Chief of Air Force Air Force	

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I confirm that all information in this brief is suitable for public release

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Questions on notice referred to within the brief:

Supplementary Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Wish-Wilson

Question Number: 169

Date Question was tabled: 2 November 2023

Question

On 26 June 2021, an Australian Defence spokesperson was quote in an ABC News article as stating:

Defence does not have a protocol that covers recording or reporting of unidentified aerial phenomena/unidentified flying object sightings

On 16 September 2023, the Daily Telegraph reported the following:

Australia's Defence position was in response to written parliamentary questions last month as to whether it would follow the US Director of National Intelligence in January to establish an All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office to co-ordinate sightings.

"Defence has no plans to replicate a similar mechanism," a handling note from RAAF Chief Air Marshal Robert Chipman confirmed.

"The Defence Aviation Safety Authority and Civil Aviation Safety Authority already serve this function across flight safety issues and apparatuses exist for concerns regarding National security."

- What protocol exists within the Defence Aviation Safety Authority for the recording or reporting of unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP), otherwise similarly identified as unidentified aerial phenomena, or unidentified flying objects?
- If there was no protocol in 2021, when was a protocol introduced if the Defence Aviation Safety Authority now serve this function?
- What is the definition of/criteria for "flight safety issues" for the Defence Aviation Safety Authority?
- If not accounted as flight safety issues, how are 'spoofing' (i.e. false GPS, radar signals) incidents monitored and recorded (or expected to be monitored and recorded if there have no reported incidents)?

Answer:

The Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA) does not have a specific protocol concerning the reporting of UAP.

A 'flight safety issue' might comprise an incident, malfunction, defect, technical defect or exceedance of limitations that endangers or could endanger the safe operation of aircraft.

'Spoofing' incidents are not recorded unless determined to be an aviation safety occurrence.

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Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 91

Date Question was tabled: 30-31 May 2023

At Estimates on 15 February 2023, Air Marshal Chipman stated that: "We have sought additional information from [the US] through the air attache in Washington."

1. Has a response been provided by the air attache? If so, what additional information was provided?

At the same Estimates: Senator WHISH-WILSON: The UK government have recently said that they are now going to also look at their ability to detect, for example, slower-moving objects that might be balloons or surveillance balloons or other objects—drones; who knows. Is that something the Australian government might consider, based on your responses?

Air Marshal Chipman: I haven't been directed to do that by the Australian government, but I have asked our Air Commander to understand what capabilities we have in order to detect these sorts of objects in our airspace.

2. What response did the Air Commander provide about capabilities?

A Defence FOI 459/21/22 states that collection and investigation of "these systems" (a reference to other nations systems) is the remit of the Intelligence Community and is classified.

3. What is the process/procedure for Air Defence to provide relevant reports to the Intelligence Community when an UAP (or some other observed phenomenon consistent with being another nations system) is sighted?
4. Did Australia attend the recent Five-eyes meeting held in May 2023? If so, did it attend the US briefing on UAP's?

Answer

1. Yes. The United States military released classified analysis to Defence.
2. The Air Commander provided a classified summary of relevant Air Force capabilities.
3. The Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities; control and reporting system; and procedures enable aircrew and air battle managers to gain awareness and communicate with higher headquarters and the Air Operations Centre (AOC). Intelligence Officers are resident at unit, headquarters and AOC levels in case deeper analysis is warranted.
4. Australia did not attend a United States briefing on UAPs.

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Supplementary Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 28

Date Question was tabled: 9 November 2022

Senator WHISH-WILSON: At the US Congressional hearing on UAP back in May, the Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence, Scott Bray, confirmed that, since the release of this preliminary report in 2021, they now had 400 case reports they were considering. Most of them were from pilots like you. He was quoted at those hearings as saying that the US had brought many allies and international partners into their discussions on UAP. Given how close we are to the US, have there been any discussions with Australian intelligence services or the Air Force in relation to their approach—

Senator WHISH-WILSON: You're 'not aware'; does that mean that this just hasn't come across your desk, or can you say categorically there haven't been any?

Answer

The Royal Australian Air Force has not held any discussions with the United States on the topic of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.

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Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 38

Date Question was tabled: 19 April 2022

Question

What the protocols for RAAF Aviation Safety Reporting that relate to unidentified aircraft identified by Air Force pilots or personnel entering military controlled airspace or considered to pose a safety risk to military aircraft? What records of observations or sightings of unidentified aircraft have been made over the past 20 years? What records of “unusual or unexpected events” (referring to previous QoN) have been made through the RAAF Aviation Safety Reporting procedures over the past 20 years?

Answer

The protocol for reporting of unusual, or unexpected airborne events is through Air Traffic Control or other military control reporting agencies. If the event manifests in a safety issue, then normal, safety reporting protocols are enacted.

There are no records of observations or sightings of unidentified aircraft made over the past 20 years.

There are no records of “unusual or unexpected events” made through the RAAF Aviation Safety Reporting procedures over the past 20 years.

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Additional Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 20

Date Question was tabled: 25 February 2022

Question

During the last Supplementary Budget Estimates (in response to a question on notice), the Department of Defence advised that there is no protocol for reporting or recording Unidentified Aerial Phenomena or Unidentified Flying Objects.

5. In a scenario that an airforce pilot, or airforce personnel on the ground (such as monitoring radar), detects or sights an aircraft over Australian airspace, or in their sphere of operation, but is unable to identify the nature of the craft, what is the process/protocol for pilot and/or personnel to report their observation?
6. If there is an existing protocol – how many such observations or sightings have been made in the past 10 years? If there is no protocol – by what means does the air force maintain the security of Australian Airspace in dealing with unidentified craft?
7. What encouragement is given to pilots to make reports of aircraft they cannot identify?

Answer

1. 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.
2. Under RAAF Aviation Reporting protocols, there has been no records of observations or sightings of unidentified aircraft over past ten years.
3. 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.

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Supplementary Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 29

Date Question was tabled: 27 October 2021

Question

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.

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?

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—

Answer

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

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Supplementary Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 90

Date Question was tabled: 27 October 2021

Question

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.

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?

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—

Answer

1. The Department of Defence has not formally reviewed the report.
2. The Department of Defence has not sought guidance on the publication.
3. The Unusual Aerial Sightings Policy was last reviewed in November 2003 and cancelled 25 March 2013.
4. A file was confirmed in 2008 to be at the National Archives of Australia. The interest of its location was raised again in 2011, however Defence was unable to verify its location nor held record of the file being destroyed. As such and to date, the Department of Defence cannot confirm its current existence.
5. The Department of Defence does not have a protocol for reporting or recording of Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) or Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO). The Air Force ceased handling reports of UAP or UFO in 1996 after determining that there was no scientific or other compelling reason for the Air Force to continue to devote resources to the recording and investigation of UAP or UFO.

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From: s47E(d)
Sent: Friday, 8 March 2024 4:46 PM
To: RAAF MLO
Subject: 240308 1545 - s47E(d) - [RAAF MLO] SB24-000023 : Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object PDMS Notification - Record Assigned

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

SEC=OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Defence

PDMS Record CC'd - [SB24-000023](#)
from s47E(c)
to [redacted]

INFORMATION COPY ONLY

This is for your Information Only as the record was assigned to s47E(c)

Status:

Draft

Subject:

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Instruction:

Hi s47E(c)

Thought you might like one last crack of this one :)

CAF SEB for review for SE May 24.

Request Action Officers (AO) review and update the SEB, NLT COB Wed, 27 Mar 24 (or earlier).

Consult action required – AFHQ COS, HQAC and DSTG through group Coord inbox only:

- s47E(d)

Note to Action officers:

- Do not adjust formatting or fonts
- All updates to RAAF MLO must be in tracked changes
- Do not add comments – If it is important, include it in the brief
- Is the content/focus of the brief still relevant? Does it need to change ie. past to present/future focus, what is currently topical?
- Content is consistent across all other products developed.
- All information is at OFFICIAL level
- Avoid assumed knowledge
- Use 'plain-english / layman's' language (no tech jargon)
- Update media items. Ministers comments and QoN if known (MLO will provide support in this area)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the clearance table including Consultation info and dates (check phone numbers) <p>Contact the MLO team if you have any queries.</p> <p>Kind regards s47E(c)</p>
--	---

Milestones: Due for **Clearance:** 07/06/2024 12:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 07/06/2024 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 s47E(d) or at s47E(d)

Thank You

PDMS Notification Service

Please do not reply to this message.

CC Recipients:

RAAF Ministerials RAAF Ministerials s47E(d)

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 26 March 2024 8:04 AM
To: RAAF MLO
Subject: 240326 0703 - [s47E(c)]-[RAAF MLO] FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Sorry s47E(c) I was tracking 27th.

ACAUST has completed his consultation. His only comment was WRT the length of the document. He recommends you consider reducing its size.

Respectfully

s47E(c)

Chief of Staff
Senior ADF Officer Glenbrook and DEOH

Headquarters Air Command (HQAC)
Tel: s47E(c)
Mob: s22



I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia. I recognise their connection to traditional lands and waters and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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: Tuesday, 26 March 2024 7:52 AM
To: DSTGroupcoord s47E(d) s47E(c)
Cc: RAAF MLO s47E(d)
Subject: RE: FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

Just checking in on my request below and whether we have an ETA for your returns?

Thank you ☺

Regards

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer

RAAF MLO | Air Force

Directorate Strategic Issues Management

Air Force Headquarters

Phone: s47E(c) | Mobile: s22

s47E(c), RAAF Base Richmond, NSW 2753

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From: s47E(c)

Sent: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 8:50 AM

To: DSTGroupcoord s47E(d) s47E(c)

Cc: RAAF MLO s47E(d)

Subject: FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

Please find attached Air Force's Senate Estimates Brief for *Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects*. Updates have been completed in track.

RAAF MLO will update relevant media closer to Senate Estimates.

In the meantime, I kindly request your respective areas consult on the attached Senate Estimates Brief. Any proposed changes, or updates please undertake in track.

Grateful for your consult returns 2 * star cleared by **NLT COB Monday 25 March 2024** back to RAAF MLO.

Regards

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer

RAAF MLO | Air Force

Directorate Strategic Issues Management

Air Force Headquarters

Phone: s47E(c) | Mobile: s22

s47E(c) RAAF Base Richmond, NSW 2753

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From: s47E(c) on behalf of DSTGroupcoord
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 10:55 AM
To: RAAF MLO; DSTGroupcoord
Subject: 240402 0955 - [DSTGroupcoord]-[RAAF MLO] Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Good morning s47E(c)

I can confirm that CDS will continue to be the lead on DSTG activities relating to UAPs.

s47E(c)

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From: s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 10:29 AM
To: DSTGroupcoord s47E(d)
Cc: RAAF MLO s47E(d)
Subject: RFI: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thank you s47E(c)

Can you please confirm also that Professor Tanya Monro, Chief Defence Scientist will lead on Defence Science and Technology Group activities related to Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena.

Just want to make sure this is still correct.

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](#)

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: [redacted] s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** DSTGroupcoord
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 9:17 AM
To: RAAF MLO [redacted] s47E(d); DSTGroupcoord [redacted] s47E(d) [redacted] s47E(c)
Subject: RE: FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning [redacted] s47E(c)

Apologies for the delay in responding, we've been overrun with other taskings!

DSTG is happy with the brief and has nil inputs. This response has been cleared by Mr Andrew Seedhouse, Chief Space, Intelligence, National Security and Cyber.

Sincerely,

[redacted] s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer | Office of the Chief Defence Scientist
Defence Science and Technology Group

Department of Defence | Russell | [redacted] s47E(c)

PO Box 7931 | CANBERRA BC ACT 2601

Ph: [redacted] s47E(c) | www.defence.gov.au

E: [redacted] s47E(c)

E: [redacted] s47E(d)

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: [redacted] s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** RAAF MLO
Sent: Tuesday, 26 March 2024 7:52 AM
To: DSTGroupcoord [redacted] s47E(d) [redacted] s47E(c)
Cc: RAAF MLO [redacted] s47E(d)
Subject: RE: FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

Just checking in on my request below and whether we have an ETA for your returns?

Thank you 😊

Regards

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer
RAAF MLO | Air Force
Directorate Strategic Issues Management
Air Force Headquarters
Phone: s47E(c) | **Mobile:** s22
s47E(c) RAAF Base Richmond, NSW 2753

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 8:50 AM
To: DSTGroupcoord s47E(d) s47E(c)
Cc: RAAF MLO s47E(d)
Subject: FOR CONSULT: Due COB Monday 25 March 2024 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimates Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

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Grateful for your consult returns 2 * star cleared by **NLT COB Monday 25 March 2024** back to RAAF MLO.

Regards

s47E(c)

Ministerial Liaison Officer
RAAF MLO | Air Force
Directorate Strategic Issues Management
Air Force Headquarters
Phone: s47E(c) | **Mobile:** s22
s47E(c), RAAF Base Richmond, NSW 2753

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From: s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 12:20 PM
To: RAAF MLO
Subject: 240402 1120 - s47E(d) - [RAAF MLO] SB24-000023 : Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object PDMS Notification - Record Assigned

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: s47E(c)

SEC=OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Defence

PDMS Record CC'd - [SB24-000023](#)
from s47E(c)
to

INFORMATION COPY ONLY

This is for your Information Only as the record was assigned to s47E(c)

Status:

Draft

Subject:

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Instruction:	Hi Ma'am SEB, with markups, consult cleared through ACAUST and DSTG. Grateful for DCAF review and clearance NLT COB, Fri 05 Apr 24. Kind regards s47E(c)
---------------------	---

Milestones:

Due for **Clearance:** 07/06/2024 12:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 07/06/2024 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 s47E(d) or at s47E(d)

Thank You

PDMS Notification Service

Please do not reply to this message.

CC Recipients:

RAAF Ministerials RAAF Ministerials ^{s47E(d)}

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(d)
Sent: Friday, 5 April 2024 8:28 PM
To: RAAF MLO
Subject: 240405 1928 - s47E(d) - [RAAF MLO] SB24-000023 : Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object PDMS Notification - Record Assigned

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

SEC=OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Defence

PDMS Record CC'd - [SB24-000023](#)
from s47E(c)
to

INFORMATION COPY ONLY

This is for your Information Only as the record was assigned to s47E(c)

Status:

Draft

Subject:

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Instruction:	Hi Sir Consults ACAUST & DCAF cleared. Grateful for HAC review and clearance NLT COB Mon, 08 Apr 24 to support progression to CAF. Regards s47E(c)
---------------------	--

Milestones:

Due for **Clearance:** 07/06/2024 12:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 07/06/2024 5:00 PM

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Thank You

PDMS Notification Service

Please do not reply to this message.

CC Recipients:

RAAF Ministerials RAAF Ministerials ^{s47E(d)} 

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Monday, 22 April 2024 8:28 AM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: 240422.0828 - Email - s47E(c) - SEB

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

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From: Chipman, Robert AIRMSHL s47E(c)
Sent: Sunday, 21 April 2024 9:42 AM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: SEB

Hi s47E(c)
Working through the SEB:

s22



s22



UAP

It's good - thank you. Cleared.

s22

