

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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Additional Estimates February 2024

Last updated: 12 February 2024

Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Key witnesses: Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Professor Tanya Monro

- We are 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 has 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 aligns with 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 and to date has had no collaboration 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 has 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 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
- . 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.

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- 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.
- 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.

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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.

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.

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Recent Ministerial Comments

- No recent comments.

Relevant Media Reporting

- On 11 February 2024, the Canberra Times published an article titled [After denials, Defence admits t 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-Wilsons' 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.
- 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'.

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Division: Air Force	
PDR No: SB24-000023	
Prepared by: s47E(c) RAAF Ministerial Liaison Office Directorate Strategic Issues Management Mob: s22 Date: 4 December 2023	Cleared by Division Head: Air Commodore Ross Bender Acting Head of Air Force Capability Air Force Headquarters Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c) Date: 22 January 2024
Consultation: Air Force Headquarters Air Commodore James Badgery Chief of Staff – Air Force Headquarters Air Force	Date: 19 January 2024 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Consultation: Headquarters Air Command Australia Air Vice-Marshal Glen Braz Air Commander Australia	Date: 7 December 2023 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Consultation: Defence Science & Technology Group Mr Andrew Seedhouse, Chief Cyber, Intelligence & National Security	Date: 11 December 2023 Mob: s22 Ph: s47E(c)
Cleared by CFO / DPG / DSR:	Date: N/A
Cleared by Deputy Secretary (or equivalent Band 3/3*): Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Chief of Air Force Air Force	Date: 12 February 2024
<input type="checkbox"/> 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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Key witnesses: Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Professor Tanya Monro

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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Key witnesses: Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Professor Tanya Monro

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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Key witnesses: Air Marshal Robert Chipman, Professor Tanya Monro

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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Response to Senate Estimates - Questions on Notice

SQ23-000295 – through Air Force

Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 91

Date Question was tabled: 30-31 May 2023

Timeline of Events

- In June 2023, A Budget Estimates – Question on Notice from Senator Whish-Wilson – SQ23-000295
- In the QON Senator Whish-Wilson asked if Australia attended the recent Five-eyes meeting held in May 2023 and if so, did it attend the US briefing on UAP's?
 - RAAF MLO consulted with SP&I and requested input to answer the question.
 - SP&I responded (21 June 2023) and advised that their divisions are unable to provide input as they are not aware of the meeting and briefing.
- In June 2023, the QON response was cleared to MECC advising, *Question 4. Australia did not attend a United States briefing on UAPs*
- In July 2023, the QON was tabled and published.

SQ23-000689 – through SP&I

Supplementary Budget Estimates

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

Question Number: 168

Type of Question: Written, 2 November 2023

Timeline of Events

- In November 2023, a Supplementary Budget Estimates - Question on Notice from Senator Whish-Wilson – SQ23-000689
- In the QON Senator Whish-Wilson asked whether Defence attended the UAP Forum.
- In late November 2023, QON was cleared to MECC advising that *Yes. A Defence representative at the Australian Embassy in Washington attended.*
- In December 2023, the QON was tabled and published.

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 February 2024 9:16 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240213.2116 - Email - s47E(c) - To add to CAF Ipad
Attachments: s7 17.2 QONs - Timeline of response to QONs (RAAF MLO).pdf

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UAP talking points as requested.

Kind regards

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s7
17.2 QONs – Timeline of response to QONs (RAAF MLO)

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Kind regards

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W: s47E(c) M: s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610
Group Mailbox: s47E(d) 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) s47E(d)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240213.1320 - Email - s47E(c) - s7 response by s7 / RAAF MLO - Response to QONs
Date: Tuesday, 13 February 2024 1:20:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
RAAF MLO - Response to QONs.docx
s7

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Ma'am

Please remind me. Are we including either/or the documents attached (behind UAP SEB in pack).

Deals with the conflicting responses to the QONs re attendance at the AARO UAP forum.

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: s47E(d) 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) s47E(d)
Sent: Monday, 12 February 2024 8:04 PM
To: s47E(c)
[REDACTED]
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: RFI: s7 response by s7 / RAAF MLO - Response to QONs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Ma'ams

In keeping with the style as provided in s7's response attached, I have prepared a one pager on the response timeline for the two separate QONs received.

I can provide further information if required.

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: s47E(d) 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.

s7

s7

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Monday, 12 February 2024 4:25 PM
To: s7
Cc: s47E(d); s47E(c)
Subject: RFI: Copy CAF Senate Estimates Brief - UAP [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s7

Further to my telephone conversation with s7 this afternoon, please find attached CAF Senate Estimate Brief – Feb 24 on UAP/UFO.

On return, CAF is urgently seeking from s7 any information, reports, dot points etc. available as from the **US AARO Five Eyes Forum on UAP** held in May 2023, that is subject of two QONs received:

- Jun 23 – SQ23-000295 – Senator Whish-Wilson (Question No. 91) – Directed to Air Force
- Nov 23 – SQ23-000689 – Senator Whish-Wilson (Question No. 168) – Directed to SP&I

Please see attached.

I understand that s7 is compiling information for CAF to speak to and also as background information. Can you please advise when CAF may expect this information/brief?

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: s47E(d) 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(d)
Subject: 240212.2143 - Email - s47E(c) /Many - Emailing: CAF Briefs - Senate Estimates Feb 24.zip
Date: Monday, 12 February 2024 9:43:21 PM
Attachments: [CAF Briefs - Senate Estimates Feb 24.zip](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

Attached is zip of CAF Senate Estimate Briefs.

s22

Thanks for all your assistance with the financials for the briefs, and under compressed timelines.

Very much appreciated.

Let me know if you need anything else.

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: s47E(d) Website: Ministerial Liaison Office

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

CAF Briefs - Senate Estimates Feb 24.zip

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)
Sent: Thursday, 8 February 2024 1:44 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240208.1344 - Email - s47E(c) - Air Force - Senate Estimate Briefs - s22 / UAP
Attachments: s22
SB24-000023 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying Object.docx

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Sir

Please find attached the current Senate Estimate briefs for Air Force, CAF cleared.

s22
SB24-000023 – Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena – Unidentified Flying Object

Hope these are within scope for your review.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

Royal Australian Air Force
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 8 February 2024 2:09 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc:
Subject: 240208.1408 - Email - s47E(c) - Briefs for cross check
Attachments: s22 17.
SB24-000023 - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying
Object.docx; s22

OFFICIAL

Hello s47E(c)

s22

Group/service POCs (thanks to you all for your help) are CC'd.

Status of these briefs:

s22

RAAF: UAP brief cleared by CAF - please review for possible intersections.

s22

s22

Yours sincerely,

s47E(c)

Chief of Staff to the Vice Chief of the Defence Force

s47E(c) | Russell Offices
Canberra BC 2610

T: s47E(c)
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) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 February 2024 10:33 AM
To: s47E(d)
Subject: 240206.1032 - Email - s47E(c) /RAAF MLO - SEBs - A/HAC cleared reviewed by HAC - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects
Attachments: SAGA75290.d24020609510.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

I've got a few scans to send you – not sure how many I'll be able to fit in each email. Not a lot of changes required.

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Head of Air Force Capability

s47E(c) | s22 | s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610
Group email: s47E(d)

Royal Australian Air Force
Office of the Chief of Air Force



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, 2 February 2024 5:26 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240202.1726 - Email - s47E(c) - Request for CAF Cleared SEBs
Attachments: s22
B24-000023 001 Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-
Unidentified Flying Object.docx

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

CAF cleared SEBs as requested.

Have a great weekend.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

Royal Australian Air Force 
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Friday, 2 February 2024 10:14 AM
To: s47E(d)
Subject: 240202.1014 - Email - s47E(c) /Senate Estimates - Updated - Senate Estimates List - Air Force
Attachments: Senate Estimate Briefs - Air Force - Table of Contents.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Good morning team

s22 attached is an updated SE list from Air Force s22

Would be grateful if you can update your records to reflect the same.

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: s47E(d) Website: **Ministerial Liaison Office**

Royal Australian Air Force
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters



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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.

	TITLE	Reference
s22		
17	Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object	SB24-000023
s22		

	TITLE	Reference
s22		

From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
To: s47E(c) James AIB s47E(d)
Cc: s47E(c) Reynolds, Harvey AVM s47E(c) s47E(d)
Subject: 2401301551 - Email - s47E(c) - Media Articles for Estimates preparation
Date: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 3:51:00 PM
Attachments: image002.png
image003.png
01_QQNs - 2022-24 Supp. Budget Estimates - Answered but not Tabled.rtf

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Sir

All media links have been added into relevant SEBs and all QQNs from the Oct SE hearing have been checked on the APH website. Please see table below:

s47E(c)

Can you please print out the attached documents for COS to provide to CAF.

Air Force Questions on Notice - Tracking Register - Senate Estimates October 2023						
PDR No	Subject	1 * star clearance COB 16 Nov 23	2 * star clearance Due NLT COB Mon 20 Nov 23 (COB Tue, 21 Nov 23)	3 * star clearance Due COB Thu 23 Nov 23	MECC Assigned Due NLT 1200h, Fri 24 Nov 23	Tabled by Parliament Checked 30 Jan 24
SQ23-000690	Q169 - Defence Aviation Safety Authority protocols for UAP	16/11/2023 - Cleared	22/11/2023 - Cleared	23/11/2023 - Cleared	23/11/2023	Tabled in Parliament 15 Dec 23

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: s47E(d) 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: Badgery, James AIRCDRE s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 10:01 AM
To: s47E(d)
Cc: s47E(c) Reynolds, Harvey AVM s47E(c)
Subject: Media Articles for Estimates preparation [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

MLO Team,

As noted yesterday following articles worthy of inclusion as part of SEB pack: Back pocket preferred.

UAP:
[Opinion: The actual hidden truth about UFOs | CNN](#)

s22

Regards,

James Badgery AM
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff – Air Force Headquarters

Email: s47E(c)
s47E(c) s22 s47E(c) P.O. Box 7902 CANBERRA BC ACT 2610
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: Wednesday, 24 January 2024 5:46 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240124.1746 - Email - s47E(c) - 230621.1055 - Email - s47E(c)
- FOR INPUT: Due 1400h Wed 21 Jun - SQ23-000295 (BP35472693)
Attachments: 230621.1055 - Email - s47E(c) - FOR INPUT: Due 1400h Wed 21 Jun -
SQ23-000295; SQ23-000295 002 Q91.pdf; SQ23-000295 001 SSCFADT - Budget
Estimates - 30 - 31 May 2023 - Q91 - UAPs.docx

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

Relevant email/documents relating to Senate Estimate QoN - Q91 received 20 Jun 23.

PDMS reference: Q23-000295 (Closed) - SSCFADT - Budget Estimates - 30 & 31 May 2023 - Q91 - UAPs

QoN - PDF (Received from MECC 20 Jun 23) Consult email to SP&I Coord inc SP&I Response (sent 20 Jun 23, response received 23 Jun 23) Air Force Response - Word (submitted to MECC 07 Jul 23).

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 s47E(d)
Website: Ministerial Liaison Office

s47E(c) has sent you a copy of "230621.1055 - Email - s47E(c) - FOR INPUT: Due 1400h Wed 21 Jun - SQ23-000295" (BP35472693) v1.0 from Objective.

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, 24 January 2024 4:33 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240124.1632 - Email - s47E(c) - SB23-000235.docx
Attachments: SB23-000235.docx

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

As requested attached is the October 23 – Senate Estimates Brief for Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/ Unidentified Flying Objects.

The current SE Brief has only just been cleared by CAF in preparation for the upcoming SE hearing in Feb 24.

If you need anything further, please let me know.

Kind regards
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: s47E(d) Website: **Ministerial Liaison Office**

Royal Australian Air Force 
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters

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) s47E(d)
Sent: Monday, 22 January 2024 4:10 PM
To: s47E(d)
Cc:
Subject: 240122.1609 - Email - s47E(c) /RAAF MLO - 240122:1344 - s47E(d)
REQUEST FOR A/HAC CLEARANCE - SB24-000023 -
UAP/UFO - Due COB Mon, 22 Jan 23
Attachments: SB24-000023 002 CAF Markups - 16 Jan 24 - UAP.pdf; SB24-000023 001
Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying Object.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon RAAF MLO,

Please be advised that A/HAC has cleared the attached SEB.

Many thanks

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Personal Assistant to Head of Air Force Capability
Air Vice-Marshal Wendy Blyth, AM
s47E(c) s47E(c) | Russell Offices, RUSSELL, ACT, 2610
Group email: s47E(d)

Royal Australian Air Force
Office of the Chief of Air Force



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From: s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** s47E(d)
Sent: Monday, 22 January 2024 1:44 PM
To: s47E(d)
Cc:
Subject: 240122:1344 - s47E(d) REQUEST FOR A/HAC CLEARANCE - SB24-000023 - UAP/UFO - Due COB Mon, 22 Jan 23

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s47E(c)

Grateful for A/HAC clearance of attached, **NLT COB Mon 22 Jan 24.**

Sir,
FYSA:

- CAF Markups in comments
- 1*, COS AFHQ updated and cleared.

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: s47E(d) Website: **Ministerial Liaison Office**

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From: s47E(d)
Sent: Friday, 19 January 2024 1:23 PM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: 240119.1323 - Email - s47E(d) / s47E(c) SB24-000023 : Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object PDMS Notification - Record Assigned

Categories: s47E(c)

SEC=OFFICIAL



PDR Record Assigned - SB24-000023
from s47E(c)
to s47E(c)

Status:
Draft
Subject: Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object

Instruction:	Cleared by COS AFHQ
---------------------	---------------------

Milestones: Due for **Clearance:** 08/02/2024 12:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 08/02/2024 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.

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(d)
Sent: Wednesday, 17 January 2024 9:47 AM
To: s47E(d)
Subject: 240117.0946 - Email - s47E(d) - SB24-000023 :
Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object PDMS Notification
- Record Assigned

Categories: s47E(c)

SEC=OFFICIAL



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

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:	<p>Hi s47E(c)</p> <p>Seeking COS AFHQ review/update with SEB and 1* clearance.</p> <p>CAF has reviewed and markedup SEB, see attached. I have also included CAF comment in SEB. In the absence of MLO staff to update, seeking COS AFHQ assistance to update brief IAW with CAF direction.</p> <p>Grateful if you can coordinate through COS, for update and 1* clearance, NLT COB Fri 19 Jan 24.</p> <p>Kind regards s47E(c)</p>
---------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Milestones: Due for **Clearance:** 08/02/2024 12:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 08/02/2024 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:

s47E(d)

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 18 January 2024 3:32 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: Senate Estimates; s47E(c) RAAF MLO
Subject: 240118.1532 - Email - s47E(c) - Senate Estimates Group Topic List - Air Force
Attachments: UPDATED - Group Topic List - Air Force.xlsx

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

Apologies – Updated list attached.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

Royal Australian Air Force 
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 16 January 2024 7:18 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d) s47E(c)
Subject: Senate Estimates Group Topic List - Air Force [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good evening s47E(c)

Please find attached Air Force Senate Estimates Topic List.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Monday, 15 January 2024 3:08 PM
To: s47E(d)
Cc:
Subject: Senate Estimates - 14 February 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon colleagues,

With barely a breath since October's hearings, we're fast approaching the next round of Senate Estimates on **Wednesday 14 February**.

To ensure the Secretary and CDF have visibility of the Department's preparations, could you please provide a list of all topics being developed at the group/service level in the attached spreadsheet at the relevant tab.

Could you please submit this to me (copying s47E(d)) **NLT 1500 Thursday 18 January**.

I'll also take the opportunity to convey a few useful messages:

- s47E(d)

-

s47E(d)



As always, thank you very much for your assistance, and please be in touch if there's anything we can do to assist.

Kind regards,

s47E(c)

Director | Senate Estimates & Executive Support
Ministerial and Executive Coordination and Communication Division (MECC)
Department of Defence | s47E(c) | Russell Offices | Canberra
P s47E(c) | M s22

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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.

*2023-24 Additional Budget Estimates
Group Level Briefs - Air Force*

No.	Title
s22	

14	Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object
s22	

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 16 January 2024 6:50 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 240116.1850 - Email - s47E(c) - Request for Assistance: SB24-000023
- UAP_UFO.docx - Due NLT COB Wed, 17 Jan 24
Attachments: SB24-000023 - UAP_UFO.docx

OFFICIAL

Hey Sir

I am reviewing CAFs SEB markups and hoping I can get your assistance on this one please?? I am not sure of who else to ask since it has primarily been drafted by s47E(c) and further updated by s47E(c) and yourself?

Attached is the SEB with one comment from CAF included for action.

Acknowledge that this is outside scope of your current position, but would be grateful if you could review/action CAFs request. I know it is short notice but hoping to get it returned to RAAF MLO by COB Wed, 17 Jan 24 to support clearance and further support a request from the Australian Space Agency.

If you don't have capacity, please let me know. Understand this is a long shot.

Thanks Sir.

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: s47E(d) Website: **Ministerial Liaison Office**

Royal Australian Air Force
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 14 December 2023 4:27 PM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: 231214.1627 - Email - s47E(c) - Emailing: s22

Attachments: 17. SB23-000235 001 Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying Objects.docx, s22
17. SB23-000235 001 Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying Objects.docx; s22

OFFICIAL
Email 2

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

s22 17.
SB23-000235 001 Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena-Unidentified Flying Objects.docx s22

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.
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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Wednesday, 13 December 2023 9:00 AM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 231213.0900 - Email - s47E(c) - TAKSING FOR CAF: SB23-000235 - UAP/UFO.docx
Attachments: SB23-000235.docx

OFFICIAL

Morning s47E(c)

Tasking for CAF pack.

Print:

- Colour
- One sided
- As is – nil markups

Tab 17

Thank you

s47E(c)

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 4:29 PM
To: s47E(d) s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 231212.1628 - Email - s47E(c) Many - DSTG feedback - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Briefing material

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon RAAF MLO, s47E(c)

Confirming I have received 'nil comments' responses from both the Chiefs of both Air and Maritime Division (Dr Ninh Duong) and Space, Intelligence, National Security and Cyber Division (Andrew Seedhouse) in relation to Air Force's Senate Estimates Brief on *Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena / Unidentified Flying Objects* (SB23-000235 refers).

Kind regards

s47E(c)

Assistant Director Strategic & Ministerial Coordination | Office of the Chief Defence Scientist
Defence Science and Technology Group

Department of Defence | Russell s47E(c)
PO Box 7902 | CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

P: s47E(c) | www.defence.gov.au
E: s47E(d)

s22

Defence acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Country throughout Australia. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them, their culture and to their Elders past and present.

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 9:19 AM
To: s47E(d)
Cc:
Subject: FW: 231201 - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Briefing material [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

DSTG Coord / s47E(c) ,

BLUF: Unable to contact Mr Seedhouse for the Consult. Seeking assistance to complete and progress this SB.

s22

Please review the attached brief to achieve DSTG Consultation. FYI, edits from ACAUST and COS have already been included (very minor to previous version).

Please contact me if you have any questions.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)



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From: s47E(c)

Sent: Friday, 1 December 2023 14:58

To: Seedhouse, Andrew MR s47E(c)

Subject: 231201 - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Briefing material [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

s47E(c) ,

BLUF: COS AFHQ, HAC and DSTG are listed as consulted in the Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Brief. Seeking your assistance to obtain clearance from Principals.

Link to PDMS: [SB23-000235](#) (attached incase you can't access PDMS)
The MLO Team have updated the SEB with latest QoN, but seek input.

Seeking a review NLT COB 4 Dec, which will then permit clearance though HAC to CAF.
Apologies for the short notice.

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: s47E(d)

Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)



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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 10:36 AM
To: Seedhouse, Andrew MR; Duong, Ninh DR
Cc: s47E(c) s47E(d) s47E(c)
Subject: 231212.1035 - Email - s47E(c) /Many - FOR URGENT ACTION - Due 1200
Wednesday 13 December - Consultation comments - Air Force Senate Estimates
Brief - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects
Attachments: SB23-000235.docx
Importance: High
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Good morning all

Please urgent review and action the below request for input from Air Force on their *Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects* Senate Estimates Brief. These consultation comments are due back to Air Force by 1200 tomorrow (Wednesday 13 December).

Note the key points for this request:

- Please provide your consult via track-changes and/or comments within the Word Doc.
- Consult comments must be Minimum 1* cleared.
- Consult feedback will be considered by the DGACC before being cleared and passed up to HAC.

Further note: CDS will consider this brief as part of her Senate Estimates pack, please cc in s47E(d) when you complete this tasking so we can update her pack accordingly.

Should you need any further information, please contact s47E(d) in the first instance.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

Assistant Director Strategic & Ministerial Coordination | Office of the Chief Defence Scientist
Defence Science and Technology Group

Department of Defence | Russell | s47E(c)
PO Box 7902 | CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

P: s47E(c) | www.defence.gov.au
E: s47E(d)

s22

Defence acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Country throughout Australia. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them, their culture and to their Elders past and present.

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 9:19 AM
To: s47E(d)
Cc:
Subject: FW: 231201 - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects
Senate Estimate Briefing material [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s22



s22



From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Monday, 11 December 2023 6:05 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: 231211.1805 - Email - s47E(c) - Request for DSTG consult clearance - UAP
Attachments: SB23-000235.docx; s22

OFFICIAL

Hi Sir

Can you please advise of DSTG consult clearance date so that I can progress and task to CAF for clearance please.

Thanks

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Thursday, 7 December 2023 2:49 PM
To: s47E(d)
Cc: s47E(c)
Subject: SBs - s22 and UAP [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

G'day MLO,

From ACAUST, SB for UAP cleared, s22

s22

Regards,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Principal Staff Officer to Air Commander Australia

H e a d q u a r t e r s A i r C o m m a n d

P: s47E(c) **M:** s22 **E:** s47E(c) .

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Monday, 4 December 2023 4:02 PM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: 231204.1601 - Email - s47E(c) - 231201 - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Briefing material
Attachments: SB23-000235.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: s47E(c)

OFFICIAL

Hi Sir,

Please see attached cleared brief as per track changes.

Regards,

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Chief of Staff Air Force Headquarters

s47E(c) | s22 | Russell Offices, Russell, 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: Friday, 1 December 2023 2:58 PM
To: Seedhouse, Andrew MR s47E(c)
Subject: 231201 - Seeking consultation on Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects Senate Estimate Briefing material [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s22

s22



From: s47E(d)
Sent: Monday, 27 November 2023 12:22 PM
To: s47E(d)
Subject: 231127.1222 - Email - s47E(d) - SB23-000235 :
Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects PDMS
Notification - Record Assigned
Categories: s47E(c)

SEC=OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Defence

PDMS Record CC'd - [SB23-000235](#)

from s47E(c)
to s47E(c)

INFORMATION COPY ONLY

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

Status:

OVERDUE Revision

Subject: Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Objects

Instruction:

Good afternoon Sir

CAF SEB for review in preparation for Senate Estimates Feb 24.

Seeking your assistance to review and update SEB.

s47E(d)

Grateful for return by Fri 01 Dec 23. Will then seek 1* clearance through COS AFHQ.

Kind regards
s47E(c)

Milestones:

Due for **Clearance:** 01/05/2023 5:00 PM
Due to **Parliamentary:** 02/05/2023 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:

^{s47E(d)}

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Wednesday, 22 November 2023 10:34 AM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d) s47E(c)
Subject: 3 - Email - s47E(c) - Question on Notice SQ23-000690 -
Response - Due Midday, 22 Nov 23

OFFICIAL

Good morning Sir

Thanks for your call this morning. s47E(d)

[Redacted]

s47E(d)

[Redacted]

I have reviewed and made some adjustments in PDMS, including comments for DG review and consideration.

Grateful for return to RAAF MLO, 1* cleared by Midday, Wed 22 Nov 23, to support progression back to DCAF and then CAF.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

Royal Australian Air Force 
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 21 November 2023 5:30 PM
To: s47E(d)
Cc: s47E(c)
Subject: RE: Further review Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

I've updated the document in PDMS (with 1* clearance) and will call tomorrow to discuss. In consultation the DG, I've added some comments to reinforce some of our statements and why we've articulated the different elements of the response.

Kind regards,



s47E(c)

PSO to DG DASA

Defence Aviation Safety Authority

s47E(c)

s22

s47E(c)

, 661 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC, 3000

[DASA website](#)

[DASA Intranet](#)

The Authority values in-confidence feedback on our performance: [Feedback](#)

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 21 November 2023 3:59 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(d)
Subject: Further review Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Sir

Apologies for the back and forth. With regards the response for this QON, we have reviewed IAW MECCs guidance below:

s47E(d)

QON Questions:

Q1. 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?

Q2. If there was no protocol in 2021, when was a protocol introduced if the Defence Aviation Safety Authority now serve this function?

Q3. What is the definition of/criteria for "flight safety issues" for the Defence Aviation Safety Authority?

Q4. 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)?

Suggested Answers:

A1. The Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA) s47C does not have a protocol for the recording of unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP) or unidentified flying objects (UFO) sightings.

s47C

s47C

A3. A 'flight safety issue' s47C
s47C 'an incident, malfunction, defect, technical defect or exceedance of limitations that endangers or could endanger the safe operation of aircraft, s47C.'

A4. s47C
'Spoofing' incidents
are not monitored or recorded. s47C

Accordingly we have reassigned the QON back to you via PDMS.

Grateful for **1* cleared** response to the QONs by 1000, Wed 22 Nov 23.

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

Royal Australian Air Force
Chief of Staff Branch - Air Force Headquarters



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 21 November 2023 2:28 PM
To: s47E(c)

Cc: s47E(c)

Subject: RE: RE: Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c)

We have reviewed DCAFs comments and addressed them in our updated response on PDMS.

Ready DCAF clearance.

Kind regards



s47E(c)

PSO to DG DASA

Defence Aviation Safety Authority



s47E(c)



s22



s47E(c)

, 661 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC, 3000



[DASA website](#)



[DASA Intranet](#)

The Authority values in-confidence feedback on our performance: [Feedback](#)

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From: s47E(c)

Sent: Tuesday, 21 November 2023 9:26 AM

To: s47E(c)

Subject: RE: Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning s47E(c)

Please see attached, for your review, DCAF comments to rework QoN succinct response.

DCAF mentioned while it is the DASA protocol to report on Flight Safety Issues, there is no specific function to report UAP sightings.

DCAF indicated that he is open to discussion should further clarification be required.

Grateful for return to RAAF MLO , **1* cleared by COB Tuesday 21 Nov 23.**

Kind regards

s47E(c)

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

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

Group Mailbox: s47E(d)

Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

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From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
To: [redacted]
Subject: 231122.1030 - Email - s47E(c) - Further review Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response
Date: Wednesday, 22 November 2023 10:30:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Thanks s47E(c)

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: s47E(d) Website: [Ministerial Liaison Office](#)

cid:image006.png@01D5A9E1.113E50D0

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Wednesday, 22 November 2023 10:19 AM
To: s47E(d)
Subject: RE: Further review Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks s47E(c) – good to go p.s happy with what is in PDMS as well.

Great work!

Regards

s47E(c)
Deputy Director
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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email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: s47E(c) s47E(d)
Sent: Wednesday, 22 November 2023 10:06 AM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: RE: Further review Question on Notice SQ23-000690 - Response [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

s47E(c) for your review and clearance...

Good morning Sir

s22



s22



s22



s22



s22



From: s47E(c)
To: s47E(d)
Cc: s47E(c); s47E(d); s47E(c)
Subject: 231121.1145 - Email - s47E(c) RAAF MLO - Senate Estimates Topic List - CAF - next round
Date: Tuesday, 21 November 2023 11:45:28 AM
Attachments: [TOC Senate Estimates List - Feb 24 - CAF comments.docx](#)

OFFICIAL

G'day team – please find CAF's comments in the last column of the attached. Request you take carriage to get briefs updated and cleared before RAP. That way minimal adjustments/stress needed after the break.

Regards

s47E(c)

Staff Officer to Chief of Air Force

Tel: s47E(c) | Mobile: s22

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	TITLE	Reference	CAF's Direction
s22			
20	Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena/Unidentified Flying Object	SB23-000235	Keep
s22			

	TITLE	Reference	CAF's Direction
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s22			
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s22

