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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Release From Nick Redfern

From: Matthew Williams <truthseekers@btinternet.com>
Date: Fri, 5 Feb 1999 00:29:40 -0000
Fwd Date: Fri, 05 Feb 1999 00:02:56 -0500
Subject: Release From Nick Redfern

Dear UFO UpDates,

I attach a text by Nick Redfern, UK UFO author which he asked me to specifically send you. Any quiereies and i can pass them on. He wanted you to have this release as it counters some statements which have recently been put out by UFO author Nick Pope... former SEC AS2 at the MOD London. Nick asks that the text be reproduced unchanged.

Thank you

Matthew Williams

The following is a release by UFO author Nick Redfern. No copyright exists on this text. for free distribution.

Author may be contacted via his publishers or with small emails via this address...

Release as follows:

From Nick Redfern.

Well as a result of my 2 December 1998 press releases, Nick Pope decided to write a reply (of sorts) in his column for the January 1999 issue of Georgina Bruni's Internet magazine, Hot Gossip. Pope misled readers of HG into believing that it was the official admission that more than 200 MOD originated UFO files were still closed to the public that led me to conclude he was 'kept in the dark' during his term with the Secretariat of the Air Staff.

However, as Fox... er, sorry, Pope knows full well, my comments surrounding the allegations of a cover-up of UFO data by the MOD were not made in response to the sheer volume of records that were admitted to being on file (all of which, by the way originate from within the office of Sec (AS) 2a and its predecessors). Rather, my comments were made in response to the brief (and, I suspect, grudging) admittance that other MOD 'divisions and establishments' beyond the quaint little office that Pope worked in, also held 'some [UFO] files', but that these files could neither be identified or released.

If, as Pope and the MOD repeatedly love to tell us, Sec (AS) 2a was the focal point for all UFO studies, why should certain files be held by other divisions and establishments? Moreover, I

find it highly suspicious that the MOD can, with such apparent ease, identify all the files, which originated with Pope and Co. but cannot (for 'lack of funds') either identify, describe or release any of the UFO material held by the additional 'divisions or establishments'.

This lame 'lack of funds' explanation is simply not good enough and is, I believe, the MODs way of stifling public and Parliamentary interest in, and awareness of, what goes on behind the scenes of the Air Staff.

On a related matter, in the same column for Hot Gossip, Pope addressed the issue of RAF Rudloe Manor and the allegations concerning whether or not covert UFO investigations are or were undertaken from the base.

Pope maintains that the answer is 'no'. However, the real picture is much murkier than that - as Pope himself well knows, but for reason best known to himself hasn't seen fit to discuss.

First, when I conducted a tape-recorded interview with Pope in 1994, I brought up the allegations surrounding Rudloe and UFOs and asked him to comment. Without hesitation, he told me that all of the accounts concerning Rudloe were myths and 'self - fulfilling prophecies' and that, to his knowledge Rudloe had no role whatsoever in the UFO subject.

Second, one of Pope's predecessors in the Air Staff (Clive Neville) told me in 1989 that the only time that Rudloe would become involved in the UFO subject would be if a member of the public filed a report with the base and from there their report would be sent to his office. And Neville was careful to point out that this wasn't limited to Rudloe - any airbase around the country would fulfil the same task.

In view of the above, it was therefore most puzzling when in 1995 a statement was issued by Rudloe and the MOD maintaining that until 1992 the base had acted as the RAF's 'UFO co-ordination point'.

It should be noted that there has been some debate surrounding the wording of this statement; however in 1996, staff at Rudloe confirmed to me that the base was not just one of many co-ordination points dotted around the country, but was in fact the one and only official co-ordination point for UFO reports for the entire British Royal Air Force!! Moreover, it was admitted to me that it was entirely possible that this role had been fulfilled as far back as in the 1950s!

To this date, Pope has not been able to explain satisfactorily why he did not know that Rudloe (and staff at Provost and Security Services' previous location at Government Buildings, Acton) fulfilled such a function on behalf of the Royal Air Force for what may have been 40 years!

Clive Neville statement suggests that he did not know; and as Timothy Good revealed in Above Top Secret, MOD man Ralph Noyes was also unaware of the Rudloe-UFO connection. And while we are on the subject of Nick Pope's Hot Gossip column, it is interesting that he brings up again the matter of 'Flying Triangle' sightings of early 1993.

In February 1999 issue of the news-stand magazine, Focus, Pope discussed he 1993 encounters and the fact that he wrote up a report at the time that was forwarded to his superiors. Pope publicly admits his belief that the incidents constituted a potential threat to the defence of UK. However when I interviewed him in 1994, what did he tell me when I asked him whether UFOs constituted a threat to the realm? 'There's no evidence of a threat to the UK that I've come across.'

It cannot be argued that Pope reached his conclusion that UFOs are of defence significance after my interview with him in 1994, because in his book, 'Open Skies, Closed Minds', Pope states: "The 30-31 March [1993] sightings brought about a marked change in my own attitude. I would play no further part in bland platitudes about UFOs being 'of no defence significance'. Except when speaking to UFO investigators in 1994, it would seem..."

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