

## Pentagon releases never-before-seen UFO files

11th May 2026



Speculation regarding the existence of extraterrestrial life is increasing following the release of never-before-seen documents on UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects). The Pentagon has declassified and released 161 files containing reports

of sightings. These include observations from astronauts during Moon missions, and from the military and civilians on Earth. One notable description was from Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin. In 1969, he reported seeing a mysterious light. He said: "I observed what appeared to be a fairly bright light source which we tentatively ascribed to a possible laser." In 1965, Frank Boman reported seeing "trillions of little particles" from the Gemini 7 spacecraft.

The documents were released at the request of President Donald Trump. In a post on social media, President Trump wrote: "In an effort for complete and maximum transparency, it was my honour to direct my administration to identify and provide government files related to alien and extraterrestrial life and Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs)." Many organizations welcomed the release of the documents. The Sol Foundation, a research group focused on UAPs, called for a comprehensive review of classified UAP records. It said people should know "the full truth about longstanding government knowledge and programs concerning technologies and vehicles not of human origin".

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [abcnews.com](https://www.abcnews.com) / [aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com)

### Writing

There is definitely extraterrestrial life in space. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

speculation / extraterrestrial life / UFOs / files / Moon missions / astronaut / light / documents / request / social media / transparency / administration / truth / human

### True / False

- 1) New files state that extraterrestrial life exists. T / F
- 2) The Pentagon released more than 1,600 files. T / F
- 3) An astronaut on the Apollo 11 mission saw a possible space laser. T / F
- 4) A Gemini 7 astronaut saw trillions of lights. T / F
- 5) President Donald Trump requested the release of the files. T / F
- 6) President Trump wanted the files released for transparency reasons. T / F
- 7) The files contained reports on unidentified aural phenomena. T / F
- 8) The Sol Foundation wants people to know the full truth about aliens. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <b>existence</b>     | a. significant      |
| 2. <b>release</b>       | b. well-established |
| 3. <b>observations</b>  | c. openness         |
| 4. <b>notable</b>       | d. issuing          |
| 5. <b>ascribed</b>      | e. thorough         |
| 6. <b>transparency</b>  | f. comments         |
| 7. <b>honour</b>        | g. source           |
| 8. <b>comprehensive</b> | h. reality          |
| 9. <b>longstanding</b>  | i. privilege        |
| 10. <b>origin</b>       | j. connected with   |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about extraterrestrial life?
- b) Have you ever seen something strange in the sky?
- c) What would you do if you came across an alien?
- d) Why do many people think the Moon landing was a fake?
- e) How interested are you in looking at the 161 files?
- f) What are your favourite movies about UFOs and aliens?
- g) Would you like to be an astronaut?
- h) What would aliens think of Earth?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Speculation regarding the existence | a. extraterrestrial life    |
| 2. The Pentagon has declassified and   | b. light                    |
| 3. from the military                   | c. review                   |
| 4. he reported seeing a mysterious     | d. particles                |
| 5. trillions of little                 | e. release of the documents |
| 6. complete and maximum                | f. and civilians            |
| 7. files related to alien and          | g. transparency             |
| 8. Many organizations welcomed the     | h. of extraterrestrial life |
| 9. a comprehensive                     | i. origin                   |
| 10. vehicles not of human              | j. released 161 files       |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do aliens look like?
- What dangers are there of UFOs landing on Earth?
- Would you go inside a UFO if one landed near your house?
- What's the difference between UFOs and UAPs?
- Are aliens good or bad?
- What do you want to know about UFOs?
- What questions would you like to ask an alien?

## Spelling

- the itcxsnnee of extraterrestrial life
- cealsidisfde and released 161 files
- from the military and nlscaviii
- he reported seeing a yetrismus light
- we eleitavtyn ascribed to a possible laser
- trillions of little plitecasr
- at the eusqter of President Donald Trump
- complete and maximum ytasprancern
- direct my minarstotadiin
- unidentified aerial eomnphnea
- a enverpsehoimc review
- technologies and lesciehv

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. d	3. f	4. a	5. j
6. c	7. i	8. e	9. b	10. g

## Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions. (Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	What is increasing about the existence of extraterrestrial life?
2.	How many declassified files were released?
3.	On which Apollo mission did an astronaut believe he saw a laser?
4.	What did astronaut Frank Boman see trillions of?
5.	What is the name of the spacecraft that Frank Boman was on?
6.	What did President Trump want to achieve with the release of the files?
7.	What were the files about besides UFOs?
8.	What kind of organization is the Sol Foundation?
9.	What did the Sol Foundation believe people should know?
10.	What vehicles did the Sol Foundation want people to know about?

## Speaking – Aliens

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about aliens coming to Earth at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| • New technology  | • Alien music  |
| • New languages   | • Alien sports |
| • Cool spaceships | • Alien games  |
| • Different food  | • Space travel |

### Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	T	4	F	5	T	6	T	7	F	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.