

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Substantiating documentation - Elizondo  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 5, 2019 3:59:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Lue Elizond Mission Transfer Documentation\(2\).pdf](#)

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Hi (b)(6):

I am reaching out in a final effort to avoid seeing this unfortunate situation escalate. As a soldier and public servant with decades of unblemished service, these false accusations are personally painful as you can well imagine. Moreover, the clearly inaccurate information released by your office has the potential to profoundly damage my career and with it my ability to provide for my wife and family.

In that regard, attached you will find a sample of unclassified correspondence that clearly demonstrates how active I remained on the UAP issue right up until my departure, to include interagency coordination with the IC on this important issue and operational collaboration with the US Navy. The transition plans referenced herein were briefed to and approved by a senior political appointee who reported directly to General Mattis. Some of the F-18 pilots and Navy officials can confirm multiple briefings and discussions with this individual and others, to include Congress. Some of these discussions and briefings actually occurred inside the SecDef's personal office suite. That is why my emails reference "the front office."

Officials from other agencies and departments (ie DIA and CIA) attended meetings I held to coordinate activities on this topic in support of the men and women in the US Navy, who as you know were and still are deeply perplexed and concerned by this phenomenon. AATIP was an official program that was never shut down, when the funding dried-up I continued to lead and interact with officials in DoD and other agencies to the best of my ability in the interest of national security. When I departed, as is clear from my resignation letter, it was purely out of frustration with my ability to gain additional traction and support. But I put my shoulder to the wheel all those years and worked diligently to maintain a focus on the AATIP issue and continued to coordinate and promote collection and analysis. Call it an "activity" vs a "program" if you will, but if this escalates it will be easy to prove how active I remained in support of our men and women in uniform, especially in the US Navy. If some who were not privy to my actions want to portray me as a rogue, well bad on them for sitting on their hands and doing nothing about recurring intrusions into US airspace and military operating areas and good on me for continuing to risk my reputation and career in support of the US Navy and the nation. Personally, it is outrageous so many others did so little in the face of what the Navy now publicly acknowledges is serious national security issue. The plain truth is that I did everything I could to maintain focus and attention on this vital issue when so many others continued to sweep it under the rug purely for fear of the stigma and possible impact on their reputations. And for that the department wants to make me out to be the bad guy? An imposter? For showing initiative and support to the Navy and others? For keeping this effort going as best I could -- an effort now fully vindicated by the Navy itself?

As you can well imagine, I am not only hurt and disappointed but angry. I should if anything be getting accolades for persistence and initiative, especially since the Navy has now publicly acknowledged the seriousness of the issue, something that only occurred because of my efforts. Instead, a knife in the back? Wow, thanks guys! If the department wants to have this out in public we can certainly do so. I can easily establish that Neil took the meetings referenced in these emails and that this plan was blessed by an individual who has departed but was at the time a senior Administration appointee and directly reported to General Mattis. Do you honestly think I

made up the stuff in these emails? Really? Check Neil's calendars and you will see these meetings occurred (as well as innumerable other meetings on my calendars).

I am providing these documents to you to afford you and the Department a final opportunity to correct the record. Meanwhile, I am being pushed into a corner as you can well imagine and will soon be forced to engage an attorney and respond. The oversight committees are also well aware of my role and I believe appreciative of my efforts.

In conclusion, it seems clear to me and others that there exists an extreme miscommunication among OUSDI staff. I truly hope we can resolve this amicably.

What a sad statement it is that instead of being rewarded for my initiative and persistence, for diligently pursuing an issue so many others were willing to duck, some in the department are instead trying to destroy my career and reputation by sowing disinformation. To reiterate, I was an OUSDI staff member while working with the AATIP portfolio up until the point of my departure. This was previously verified by the DoD Press Secretary in 2017. Check Neil's calendar and you will be able to confirm these meetings occurred -- a small sample of the total number of meetings I was having on a weekly and near daily basis at the time.

I know that you are trying to be a fair and honest broker. I hope you will therefore take this letter in the spirit of a former colleague merely seeking to set the record straight.

Please advise receipt of this communication if you would at your earliest convenience. I am holding off media requests and will continue to do so until I hear from you. As you can imagine, the pressure is growing.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Lue Elizondo

Classified By:  
Derived From:  
Declassify On:

Thanks Lue. I'm around next week, but then gone week of the 25th on a/l. For specific date/time, just work with (b)(6) - I'm not allowed to muck around with my calendar... (but I am in the building all day the 20th).

Yep, have a discussion with Stean tomorrow.  
Thanks  
Neill

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

From: Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 3:41 PM  
To: Tipton, Neill, T., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
Subject: Update

Greetings Neil,  
A couple quick items for you...

- 1) Front office is aware that you are now part of this endeavor and they are happy with the decision. We will plan on you meeting (b)(6) and (b)(6) next week.
- 2) How does this Wednesday look for an hour discussion?
- 3) Lastly, (b)(6) is a friend of the program. I believe you may be speaking with him tomorrow. He is a good man. Just thought you should know...

**Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI**

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**From:** Tipton, Neill, T., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 11:17 AM  
**To:** Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
**Subject:** RE: Program Meeting

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
=====

Thanks Lue. All good - although, at some point I need to know what this actually "is"....

Thanks

Neill

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

**From:** Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 10:35 AM  
**To:** Tipton, Neill, T., Mr., OSD OUSDI  
**Subject:** RE: Program Meeting

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
=====

Neil, as discussed, thanks for your time with this. As the principal SES in your Directorate, I think you are certainly the appropriate representative to help take our effort to a new level.

I think by now you probably already know I have been managing another "nuanced" effort within the Department for some time. In fact, even when I worked for you years ago your probably guessed I was also working another effort for the Department given some of our discussion and raw video.

I can't overstate how important I believe this portfolio is with respect to our collective National Security. So you are aware, I have already laid the foundations with SECDEF's front office (and they support it) to transfer the portfolio under you given your new focus on Special Projects for the Department and USD(I). The front office will also brief up the new USD(I) once he arrives but id hesitant to brief anyone else at this point so please keep this at our level for now. Initially, I was going to approach John Pede but when he handed over the reigns to you, I figured you would be the perfect fit.

In the coming weeks, I ask you to attend a few meetings with me at the front office in order that you can meet the rest of the players within the building. Later, I will also introduce you to some of our partners in industry and other agencies who are helping lead the charge. Ultimately, I will need your help analyzing and exploiting material (this was the area Mark Sanders was particularly helpful with). I have a facility I need to show you that you will be able to use.

As always, I sincerely appreciate your help with this and look forward to working with/for you once again. I can't think of a better guy to be involved with this.

Best,

Lue

P.S. let me know when you want to go kill some fish! I have access to an awesome 35 Trojan that is a serious fishing machine in the Bay! I'll buy the bait!

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

From: Tipton, Neill, T., Mr., OSD OUSDI

Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2017 8:05 AM

To: Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI; (b)(6) (OPNAV N2N6 Arlington, VA)

Cc: Arter, Harry, E., Mr., OSD OUSDI

Subject: RE: Program Meeting

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

=====

Thanks Lue.

Added (b)(6) to help with scheduling.

Thanks

Neill

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

From: Elizondo, Luis, D., Mr., OSD OUSDI

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 3:17 PM

To: (b)(6) (OPNAV N2N6 Arlington, VA)

Cc: Tipton, Neill, T., Mr., OSD OUSDI

Subject: Program Meeting

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

=====

Greetings (b)(6),

I briefly spoke to Mr. Neil Tipton (CC'd above) about our collective efforts and the interest expressed by the front office. Upon your return, I recommend we meet with Mr. Tipton briefly in person. He is amicable for a discussion and is aware of Mark Sander's previous portfolio. Mr. Tipton is now the Acting Director, Defense Intelligence for Technical Collection and Special Programs.

Neil, as soon as Brennan returns from leave, we will schedule a quick meeting as promised. (b)(6) is our Navy counterpart.

Very Best/Very Respectfully,

Lue

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

**From:** (b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (USA)  
**To:** (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA)  
**Cc:** Tipton, Neill T SES OSD OUSD INTEL (USA); Cummings, Matthew C (Matt) SES OSD OUSD INTEL (USA); (b)(6)  
(b)(6) OSD OUSD INTEL (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD OUSD INTEL (US); (b)(6) CIV USN  
DCNO N2N6 (US); Stratton, John F (Jay) SES USN ONI WASHINGTON DC (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Elizondo & Transfer of AATIP  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 5, 2019 8:04:50 PM

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(b)(6) and (b)(6)

Good afternoon, all. Your questions below pertain to the issues I raised in earlier emails regarding the distinctions we must make between past programs and the normal, day-to-day coordination/facilitation work of the DoD and, in particular, the OUSDI. Mr. Elizondo did play a role in facilitating connections and introductions to other DoD elements that were working CI/safety issues similar to those encountered by Navy. There were no funding lines associated with this work or significant resources expended, and nothing out of the ordinary regarding business practice. The "work" was similar to the daily travails of all of us in the Pentagon-- office and small group meetings, advice, and correspondences largely related to the same. In this regard, Mr. Elizondo was very useful. Though a colorful personality to be sure, I think Neill would agree that Mr. Elizondo maintained a solid reputation up until he made a sudden, shocking departure in October 2017.

As always, I am happy to discuss details in person or on another network.

As for your particular questions below--

- 1) I am aware of office discussions that occurred at the request of OSD leadership. I escorted the pilots myself.
- 2) (b)(6) covered this below, and Jay is copied on this message. Jay is an Office of Naval Intelligence Defense Intelligence Senior Leader (DISL).
- 3) I think you characterize the confusion accurately. The differences of perspective/opinion may arise from semantics/terminology regarding "programs" or "projects". The statement from earlier is germane--

"The DoD is always concerned about maintaining positive identification of all aircraft in our operating environments as well as identifying any foreign capability that may be a threat to the homeland. DoD will continue to investigate, through normal procedures, reports of unidentified aircraft encountered by US military aviators in order to ensure defense of the homeland and protection against strategic surprise by our nation's adversaries."

(b)(6) can provide the official Navy TPs on this, but they are very similar.

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

DONCAPCO

Comm: (b)(6)

Secure: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 11:37 AM

To: (b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US) (b)(6)

(b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (USA) (b)(6)

Stratton, John F (Jay) SES USN ONI WASHINGTON DC (USA)

(b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Elizondo & Transfer of AATIP

Thanks, (b)(6). My office has had to respond to multiple queries specifically about Elizondo's tenure in DoD and involvement with AATIP.

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

From: (b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 11:26 AM

To: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b)(6)

(b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (USA) (b)(6)

Stratton, John F (Jay) SES USN ONI WASHINGTON DC (USA)

(b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Elizondo & Transfer of AATIP

(b)(6)

Jay is the Navy Team Lead for all of this on UAPs at the Office of Naval Intelligence in Suitland.... and has been involved in these issues over the long haul.

If anyone has knowledge on you specific Qs on the old office... he would.... I've added him to this discussion.

He is on travel this week and next... so hopefully he will see this at some point soon.

(b)(6) may be able to assist in the interim.

I would note that, as the Navy spokesperson over the last couple of months... I haven't talked about Mellon or Elizondo in any of our responses to media queries.

Let's see what Jay and/or (b)(6) can do to shed light on all this!

Regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) U.S. Navy (ret)

N2N6 Strategic Engagements

(b)(6)

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

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b)(6)  
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 11:15 AM  
To: (b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (USA) (b)(6);  
(b)(6) CIV USN DCNO N2N6 (US) (b)(6)  
Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA) (b)(6)  
Subject: Elizondo & Transfer of AATIP

Gentlemen,

Both Luis Elizondo himself and former DASD Chris Mellon have contacted our office because they believe the statements that we've put out regarding AATIP and particularly Elizondo's role in it, are false (and Elizondo is threatening to sue). Per the information we've received from DIA and OUSD(I), Elizondo was briefly supporting the DIA office that managed the AATIP program, but after early 2010, while in OUSD(I), he had no responsibilities for AATIP. Elizondo claims he continued working on AATIP/UAPs until he resigned in 2017. He claims that J. Stratton in Navy knew of the program/his involvement, and that then-SECDEF Mattis and/or his front office was briefed on the program, and that two Navy pilots briefed the SECDEF/his front office on "what they saw."

First, are you aware of any briefings on UAPs/AATIP to then-SECDEF Mattis' front office in general, and in particular, do have any knowledge/reports/documentation that two Navy pilots briefed the SECDEF front office on any UAP incidents in the 2016-2017 time frame?

Second, do you know who J. Stratton is? Does he still work for Navy (perhaps somewhere in the SECNAV/secretariat side, rather than the military side of Navy)? Did he previously/does he still have anything to do with UAPs?

Third. There is confusion -- probably as a result of semantics/terminology -- over whether the program "ended" or was "transitioned." By the best information we've received, the formal AATIP program last received funding in the FY2010 NDAA, and those funds ran out, with the completion of the final 12 of 38 technical studies, in 2012. From the overall DoD perspective, that was the end of AATIP as a program. However, I'm beginning to think what happened is that some office in either OSD and/or Navy (e.g., N2N6) continued to track/monitor UAP incidents -- but not as an official program, just as a mission/function/duty of an office, with no funding line, and certainly not as "AATIP." I think that is what Elizondo is referring to when he claims that he continued to work with/in AATIP until 2017. Can you shed any light on that?

Regards,

(b)(6)

Defense Public Affairs Operations, OSD(Public Affairs)

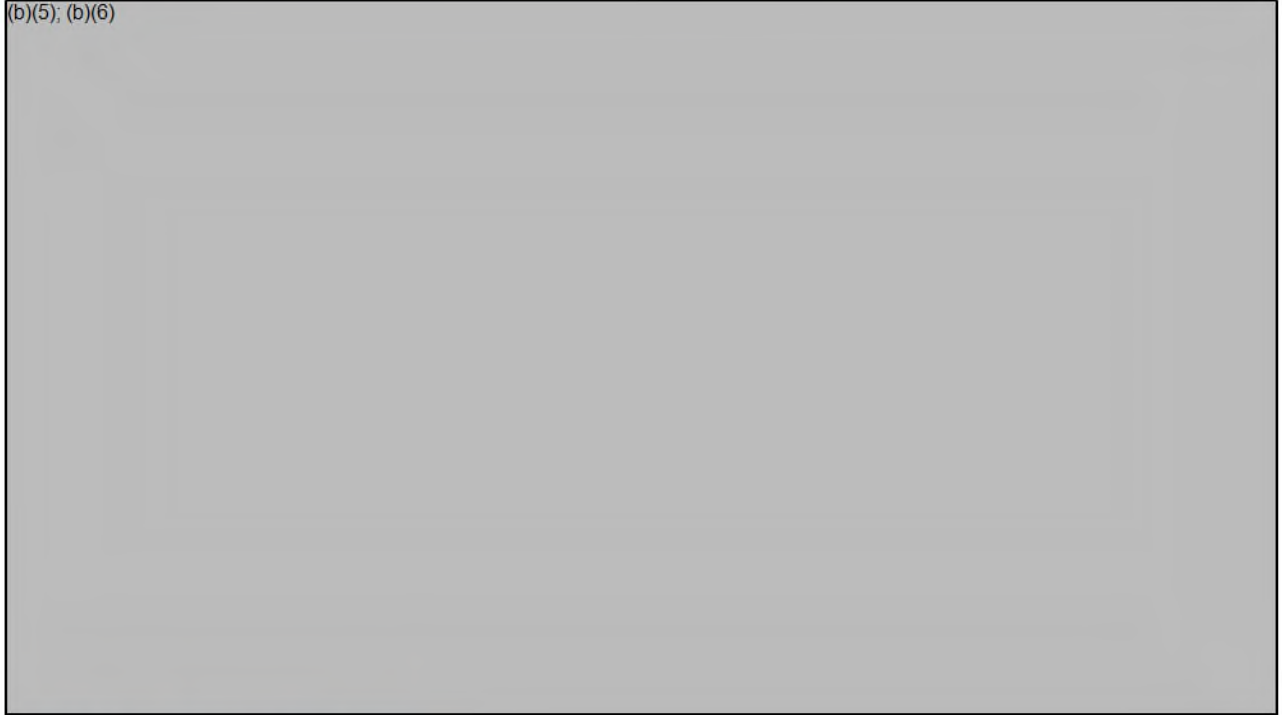
(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) CIV (USA)  
**To:** Carranza, Guillermo R SES OSD OGC (USA); (b)(6) JSARMY OSD OUSD INTEL (US);  
(b)(6) CIV OSD OUSD INTEL (US)  
**Cc:** (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] Lue Elizondo/AATIP  
**Date:** Thursday, June 6, 2019 9:51:42 AM  
**Attachments:** [RE Elizondo Transfer of AATIP \(29.6 KB\).msg](#)  
[Non-DoD Source Substantiating documentation - Elizondo \(1.34 MB\).msg](#)

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Mr. Carranza,

(b)(5); (b)(6)



Media outlets outstanding queries:

The Intercept, (b)(6)  
POLITICO, (b)(6)  
VICE, (b)(6)  
HUFFPOST, (b)(6)  
The War Zone, (b)(6)  
UFO-aktuell, (b)(6)

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Public Affairs Operations-Pentagon, (b)(6)

direct: (b)(6)

mobile: (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR: (b)(6)

[www.defense.gov](http://www.defense.gov)

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**From:** (b)(6) CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 5, 2019 10:33 AM  
**To:** Carranza, Guillermo R SES OSD OGC (USA) (b)(6); (b)(6) CIV OSD  
OUSD INTEL (US) (b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FW: [Non-DoD Source] Lue Elizondo/AATIP

Mr. Carranza,

(b)(5)



V/r,

(b)(6)

---

(b)(6)

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Public Affairs Operations-Pentagon, (b)(6)

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mobile: (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR:

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**From:** (b)(6) CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) USARMY OSD OUSD INTEL (US)  
(b)(6); (b)(6) CIV OSD OUSD INTEL (USA)  
(b)(6)  
**Cc:** (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FW: [Non-DoD Source] Lue Elizondo/AATIP

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Luis Elizondo is featured in a History Channel special for the next five weeks and this issue will continue to be in the public eye. I want to make sure we are not stepping out of our swim lane.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)  
Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Public Affairs Operations-Pentagon, (b)(6)  
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mobile: (b)(6)  
NIPR: (b)(6)  
SIPR: (b)(6)  
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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2019 12:36 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) CIV (USA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Lue Elizondo/AATIP

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

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Hi (b)(6)

Attached are a two examples of the documentation Lue may feel compelled to release if there is not a clarification of his continuing active role in coordinating activities with Navy and other agencies related to UAP issues right up until his departure and resignation from OSD.

Frankly, it might well be to Lue's benefit and that of TTSA and the History Channel to have a pissing match about this with DoD/OSD but personally I'd hate to see that. I'm glad that does not seem to have occurred to Lue yet but it may become unavoidable if there is not some clarification since his integrity is publicly being called into question.

I also want to point out that Lue insists that he was NOT detailed to DIA, another falsehood according to Lue.

I know your office and its credo very well and fully understand that you and your colleagues are absolutely committed to being as transparent as possible. There is not the least question in my mind regarding your integrity or that of your colleagues in OSD Public Affairs based on serving in OSD during 2 Administrations. However, you have clearly have not been given a full or complete picture on this issue.

I hope this information proves useful. There is much more than this sample. Lue has a lot of friends on the inside who I believe will continue to push out more unclassified information on his behalf if this becomes a pissing match. Indeed one of them will soon be appearing on the History Channel show talking about their work with Lue on these matters AFTER the time period you seem to believe he was no longer involved with AATIP (although that individuals identify is protected).

I hope this information proves useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Lue cherishes his relationship with DoD and does not want to escalate this but as you can imagine after the intercept story by Kloor pressure is building on him to respond.

In my view it is probably best for you to continue this discussion directly with Lue going forward; it is not really my affair, but I did want to give you a head's up as I can see where this may be heading and it seems to me to be preferable to avert a public clash over this if possible.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)  
(b)(6)

PS: Last week I appeared on GMA, Fox, Inside Edition etc. Below is a sample. I imagine I may be asked to comment publicly on this issue soon myself. If so, obviously I will have no choice but to set the record straight. Lue was clearly continuing to work the UAP issue at a high level right up until the end.

Here is where I am coming from on the larger UAP issue if interested:

Caution-[https://www.foxnews.com/science/\(b\)\(6\)-official-ufo-sightings-real](https://www.foxnews.com/science/(b)(6)-official-ufo-sightings-real) < Caution-[https://www.foxnews.com/science/\(b\)\(6\)-official-ufo-sightings-real](https://www.foxnews.com/science/(b)(6)-official-ufo-sightings-real) >

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DoDR 5400.11-R and the applicable service directives. See also DoD Instruction 5505.07 Titling and Indexing Subjects of  
Criminal Investigations in the Department of Defense.~~

Owner:

(b)(6);  
(b)(7)(C)

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Generated: 2021/05/06 14:47:22

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# Person Search Results

Results: 0 Records Found

## Search parameters:

<b>Search Type:</b>	Relaxed		
<b>Social Security Number:</b>	(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)		
<b>Last Name:</b>	elizondo	<b>Limit:</b>	75 %
<b>First Name:</b>	luis	<b>Limit:</b>	75 %
<b>Date of Birth:</b>	(b)(6); (b)(7)(C)		
<b>Date Requested:</b>	Thursday, May 06, 2021 14:47:22 EDT		

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~~DSS Branch)~~

## REDD Report

SSN (b)(6) | Name : ELIZONDO, LUIS DANIEL | Sex : M | Birth Date: (b)(6)

Category	Service	Retirement Type	Begin	End	RSVCC	Pay Plan	Pay Grade	Occ. Code	UIC	Projected End Date
DoD Contractor	Air Force		12-17-2020							09-27-2021

## Personnel Loss Data

Category	Service	DOA/DOC	Pay Plan	Separation Date	Char. Of Service	IRE	ISC	Reenlist. Eligibility	SPD Code
Reserve	Army	12-09-1998	ME	12-06-2003	Z	09	000	ZZ	ZZZZ
Active Duty	Army	08-07-1995	ME	12-08-1998	A	3	090	3	MFF

## ASVAB Scores

Entry Date	Test Date	Test Form	Test Vers.	AFQT Mep.	AFQT Group	AFQT Calc.	CS
950211	950211	21	B	90	7	90	
(b)(6)							
Army							
(b)(6)							
Navy							
(b)(6)							
Air Force							
(b)(6)							
Marines							
(b)(6)							
Raw Scores							
(b)(6)							

The database contains U.S.Mepcom-administered ASVAB test data.

AFCT ASVAB tests are valid. Use AFCT ASVAB if AFCT ASVAB test date is more recent.

If Test Date = 999999 or 000000 then use adjacent Entry Date for Test Date.

All dates are in the MM/DD/YY format

If you have any questions or comments about the information presented here, please email the helpdesk at

(b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6) [CIV OSD PA \(USA\)](#)  
**To:** (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) [OIG DoD](#)  
**Subject:** UAP  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:23:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [RE Non-DoD Source Lue ElizondoAATIP \(1.40 MB\).msg](#)  
[RE Restated Question\(s\) Elizondo and UAPs \(9.52 KB\).msg](#)  
[Reid Letter to Lynn-1.pdf](#)  
[Non-DoD Source Lue ElizondoAATIP \(7.23 MB\).msg](#)

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(b)(6)

Please find attached a several emails that reflect our effort to accurately capture and describe Mr. Elizondo's involvement with the AATIP program while he was at OUSD(I).

I've also attached an email from Mr. Elizondo's lawyer. Please let me know if I can assist further.

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Public Affairs Operations-Pentagon, (b)(6)

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