

Reference: 02189346

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

11 May 2026

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning a Southern television interruption tape.

We received your request on 21 April 2026 and have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request & our response

I am emailing regarding whether or not you possess a tape recording (or at least a higher quality audio recording), and generally any other archival material relating to the Southern Television broadcast interruption that occurred on November 26, 1977 when a voice to be "Vrillon" of the Ashtar Galactic Command broke into a news bulletin on said television station. While there is audio available online, it is sometimes staticky and often difficult if not impossible to make out what the voice is saying at certain points. If the recording of this specific event is no longer in your possession, please point me towards an organization that may possess it.

We do not hold this information.

Any information Ofcom held from the Independent Television Authority (ITA) and the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), who regulated Southern Television at that time, was gifted to Bournemouth University. You may wish to redirect your enquiry to [them](#), and they may be able to confirm if they hold information in scope of your request.

Yours sincerely,

Information Requests

Request an internal review

If you are unhappy with the response you have received to your request for information, or think that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you do, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will either uphold the original decision, or reverse or modify it.

If you would like to ask us to carry out an internal review, you should get in touch within two months of the date of this letter. There is no statutory deadline for us to complete our internal review, and the time it takes will depend on the complexity of the request. But we will try to complete the review within 20 working days (or no more than 40 working days in exceptional cases) and keep you informed of our progress. Please email the Information Requests team (information.requests@ofcom.org.uk) to request an internal review.

Taking it further

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our internal review, then you have the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).