

# Editing Exercise (medium copyedit)

## Exercise Instructions

Copyedit the following article.

### CIA's Role in the Study of UFO's ~~UFOs~~, 1947-90

~~95 % of all Americans at least~~ At least 95% of Americans have heard or read something about Unidentified Flying Objects (~~UFOs~~), and ~~57 %~~ 57% believe they are real. Former ~~U.S.~~ US Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan claimed to have seen one. ~~UFOlogists~~ Many ufologists (UFO buffs) and private UFO organizations ~~are~~ found throughout the United States: Many are convinced that the ~~U.S. Government~~ US government—and particularly Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)—~~are~~ is engaged in massive conspiracy and coverup of to cover up the issue. The idea that CIA has secretly concealed its research into UFO's has been a major theme of UFO buffs since the modern UFO phenomena emerged in the late 1940's. Ufologists have been suspicious of CIA concealment of UFO research since the modern UFO phenomenon emerged in the late 1940s.

In late 1993, after ~~being pressurized by UFOlogists~~ pressure from ufologists for the release of CIA information on ~~UFO's~~ UFOs, ~~DCI~~ Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) R. James Woolsey ordered a review of all ~~Agency~~ CIA files on ~~UFO's~~ UFOs. Using CIA records compiled from that review, this study traces CIA interest and involvement in the UFO controversy from the late 1940s to 1990. It chronologically examines the ~~Agency's~~ CIA efforts to solve the mystery of ~~UFO's~~ UFOs, its programs that had an impact on UFO sightings, and its attempts to conceal CIA involvement in the entire UFO issue. What emerges from this examination is ~~that~~,

while ~~Agency~~ CIA showed substantial concern over ~~UFO's~~ UFOs was substantial until the early 1950s, ~~CIA~~ it has since only paid limited and peripheral attention to the ~~phenomena~~ phenomenon.

~~Due to~~ In the context of the tense Cold War situation and increased Soviet military capabilities, a CIA ~~Study Group~~ study group in the early 1950s saw serious national security concerns in the flying saucer situation ~~was concerned about US national security if Americans believed in the existence of UFOs.~~ The group believed that the Soviets could use reported sightings of UFOs ~~reports to touch off~~ cause mass hysteria and panic in the ~~United States~~ American public. The group also believed that the Soviets might use UFO sightings to overload the ~~U.S.~~ US air warning system so ~~that~~ it could not distinguish real targets from phantom ~~UFO's~~ UFOs. H. Marshall Chadwell, Assistant Director of ~~OSI~~ Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI), ~~added that he~~ considered the problem of such importance "that it should be brought to the attention of the National Security Council (NSC), in order that a communitywide coordinated effort toward its solution may be initiated."

Chadwell briefed DCI Smith on the subject of ~~UFO's~~ UFOs in December, 1952. He urged action because he was convinced ~~that~~ "something was going on that must have immediate attention." ~~and that~~ He added, "Sightings of unexplained objects at great altitudes and traveling at high speeds in the vicinity of major U.S. defense installments are of such nature that they are not attributable to natural phenomena or known types of aerial vehicles." He ~~Chadwell~~ drafted a ~~memoranda~~ memorandum from the DCI to the ~~National Security Council (NSC)~~ and a proposed NSC Directive establishing the investigation of ~~UFO's~~ UFOs as a priority project throughout the intelligence and the defense research and development community. Chadwell also urged Smith to establish an external research project ~~on~~ involving top-level ~~top-level~~ scientists to study the problem of ~~UFO's~~ UFOs.

In January, 1953, Chadwell and ~~H.P.~~ H. P. Robertson, a noted physicist from the California Institute of Technology, put together a distinguished panel of nonmilitary scientists to study the UFO issue. The panel concluded unanimously ~~that~~ there was no evidence of a direct threat to national security in the UFO sightings. Nor could the panel find any evidence ~~that~~ the objects sighted might be extraterrestrials. It did find that continued emphasis on UFO reporting might threaten “the orderly functioning” of the government by clogging ~~the~~ channels of communication with irrelevant reports and by inducing “hysterical mass behavior” harmful to constituted authority. The panel also worried that potential enemies contemplating an attack on the United States might exploit ~~the~~ UFO ~~phenomena~~ ~~phenomenon~~ and use ~~them~~ ~~it~~ to ~~distinguish~~ ~~U.S.~~ ~~disrupt~~ US air defenses.

To ~~meet~~ ~~address~~ these problems, the panel recommended that the ~~National Security Council~~ NSC debunk UFO reports and institute a ~~policy of~~ public education ~~campaign~~ to reassure the public of the lack of evidence behind ~~UFO's~~ UFOs. It suggested using the mass media, advertising, business clubs, schools, and even the Disney corporation to get the message across. Reporting at the height of McCarthyism (~~a period in the 1950s exposing communist infiltration into the US government~~), the panel also recommended that such private UFO groups, ~~such~~ as the Civilian Flying Saucer investigators in Los Angeles and the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in Wisconsin, be monitored for subversive activities.

Exercise Source:

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