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For more recent information about Area 51, see the new [Area 51 Research Center](#) maintained by Don Emory.

## More on the CIA, UFOs and the U-2 [skunkworks]

From: [campbell@ufomind.com](mailto:campbell@ufomind.com) (Glenn Campbell, Las Vegas)  
Date: Wed, 6 Aug 1997 09:46:35 -0800

[Skunkworks mailing list, via "Michael J. Poirier" <mpoirier@cruzio.com>]

From: [drbob@creighton.edu](mailto:drbob@creighton.edu)  
Date: Tue, 5 Aug 1997 13:59:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: Skunkworks <[skunk-works@pmihwy.com](mailto:skunk-works@pmihwy.com)>  
Subject: Interesting Article  
Sender: [owner-skunk-works@netwrxl.com](mailto:owner-skunk-works@netwrxl.com)

Members of the Skunk Works group may find the following to be of some interest.

My colleague Gerald Haines (the NRO Historian) has recently published an article entitled "A Die Hard Issue: CIA's Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947-90," in Studies in Intelligence. The unclassified article in at this URL:

<http://www.odci.gov/csi/studies/97unlcas/ufo.html>

There are several worthy topics. First is the official recognition that many of the early UFO sighting in the 1950s and 1960s were U-2s and A-12s painted silver and reflecting the sun.

Second is the revelation that U.S. analysts feared that the Soviet Union might exploit the UFO paranoia by creating a flood of bogus UFO reports that would saturate the U.S. air defense network, enabling Soviet bombers and missiles to attack largely undetected and unopposed.

Finally is a reference which may hint at a future goldmine. I believe that this is THE source for which many of us have waited:

Pedlow, Gregory W., and Donald E. Welzenbach. The Central Intelligence Agency and Overhead Reconnaissance: The U-2 and OXCART Program, 1954-1974. Washington, D.C.: CIA History Staff, 1992.

I have no idea if this has been declassified and released. Rest assured that there are a gazillion FOIA requests for this document. This may be the one that is pending British clearance, which may never be forthcoming.

As many lurkers here may recall, the issue of "black" aircraft as UFOs has appeared many times in this forum, and this article appears to verify much of that speculation.

DrBob

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