Congressional Action

Ex-C.I.A. Chief
Wants UFO Probe

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WASHINGTON — Adm. R. H. Hillenkoetter, who headed the Central Intelligence Agency from May 1947 to October 1950, recently declared, speaking about the so-called flying saucers: "The unknown objects are operating under intelligent control. It is imperative that we learn where the UFO's (unidentified flying objects) come from and what their purpose is."

Then, referring to the years of World War II and the years immediately following, he said: "I know that neither Russia nor this country had anything even approaching such high speeds and maneuvers." Here Admiral Hillenkoetter presumably was speaking of at least part of the period during which he was the director of C.I.A.

Admiral Hillenkoetter wants a Congressional investigation of the UFOs. This is a proposal that others have made in recent years, and it has been consistently opposed by the Air Force which possesses exclusive official authority to investigate and report to the public upon the unidentified flying objects. So far Congressional committees have shied away from such a probe.

The U-2 incident, with its attending circumstances, furnishes particular life and significance to the Hillenkoetter convictions.

"To begin with, the admiral for about three and a half years held the same job that Allen W. Dulles now holds. Hillenkoetter undoubtedly received reports on the UFOs, including the findings of investigations concerning them. Dulles without question has received reports and findings on the UFOs. By the way, in the early 1950s the C.I.A. rather openly helped arrange a Air Force meeting of top scientists on the strange objects. That "conference" issued conclusions which, among other things, said the UFOs pose no apparent threat to national security. This recommendation immediately died."

"No need to stress that when Admiral Hillenkoetter states the UFO's are intelligently controlled and were neither our invasions nor Russian invasions he speaks with a knowledge possessed by few other citizens. Whether a former director of C.I.A. keeps in some contact with the C.I.A. is an information after he has left the Agency, no one will probably answer."

Lied by Plan

But to come to the U-2 matter. Here was a case where we lied by rearrangement, lied by plan. In the light of the Air Force handling of the UFO matter, insisting against plain evidence to the contrary in certain cases that the UFOs can all be explained as familiar objects mistakenly identified, the question inevitably arises: Is the Air Force following a prearranged plan or public statements on the strange objects? Is the Air Force deliberately misleading the public?

Regarding our early lying about the captured U-2 plane and its pilot, our statement that the plane was an innocent weather plane, George V. Allen, director of the U.S. Information Agency, said that this statement was a "push-button" reply, which he stated, had been prepared in advance.

Sec. of State Christian A. Herter said our statement was a "cover story" that "was prepared for that contingency." And Undersecretary of State Dillon repeated we had used a "cover story" which "had been previously prepared for such instance."

An all-important revelation for our citizens, from the U-2 case, is that it's high official policy to lie to our citizens and to the world, in some cases.

Mistaken Identity
Do the UFO sightings constitute such a case? Let it be said parenthetically that the majority of sightings obviously involve mistaken identity. But a small minority do not; these present evidence that Air Force explanations are not true. Admiral Hillenkoetter, with all his special knowledge, says this — says it indirectly, if you will.

Does C.I.A. Director Allen Dulles believe that something like national panic might be produced if the Air Force flatly said that it just can't explain certain UFO sightings? Or has he advised, for some other reason, the Air Force line of conduct?

Former C.I.A. Director R. H. Hillenkoetter does not believe that...