Scary Sources

Common sources like journal articles, websites, and books can be found with a quick Chicago Manual of Style search, but what about congressional hearings, DoD reports, and archival sources—the scary sources? See below to learn how to craft citations for PME’s scariest sources.

Manuals, Instructions, Directives, and Doctrine


TRADOC Pamphlet 525-3-1 (2018). [short version]

White House Website-Only Releases


Hearings

Congressional Reports, and Miscellaneous Documents

For more information see https://www.congress.gov/. Format with the Title, “H.R.” or “S.” Rep. No. report number, part if applicable, and year.


Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, sec. 403.c.2. [short version]

Manuscript Collections

The dates for manuscript collections (letters, papers, diaries, minutes, notes, and so forth) are set in standard American format (month-day-year). The location of well-known repositories such as the Library of Congress or Harvard College Library are not necessary.

Everett Hughes to Kate Hughes, August 17, 1943, box II:2, Everett Strait Hughes Papers (ESHP), Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. [Note: The word “letter” is omitted but other forms of communication such as telegrams or memorandums would appear before the date.]


George S. Patton Jr. to Infantry Journal, March 19, 1941, folder 5, box 26, George S. Patton Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

Are other scary sources keeping you awake at night? Let the Press know. Your scary sources may be featured in an upcoming issue of Press Tips.
Trick or Treat?

Can a source be cited in another source? Technically yes, but also no. According to paragraph 14.260 in the *Chicago Manual of Style*,

To cite a source from a secondary source ("quoted in...") is generally to be discouraged, since authors are expected to have examined the works they cite. If an original source is unavailable, however, both the original and the secondary source must be listed.

Example:


Before executing a secondary source citation, use the citation information provided to track down the original source. Google Scholar, Google Books preview function, Amazon books preview function, archives.org, and YouTube are good avenues for finding older sources.

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