

## Summary

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:40 PM

MK-Ultra was a top-secret CIA project in which the agency conducted hundreds of clandestine experiments—sometimes on unwitting U.S. citizens—to assess the potential use of LSD and other drugs for mind control, information gathering and psychological torture. Though Project MK-Ultra lasted from 1953 until about 1973, details of the illicit program didn't become public until 1975, during a congressional investigation into widespread illegal CIA activities within the United States and around the world.

From <<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>>

In its search for the perfect mind-control technique, the CIA carried out horrifying tests on unwitting humans. The story of programs like MK-Ultra is a chilling look at how the US government turned its own citizens into guinea pigs — and destroyed lives in the process.

From <<https://jacobinmag.com/2020/10/cia-brainwashing-program-mk-ultra-sidney-gottlieb>>

What We Know About the CIA's Midcentury Mind-Control Project  
Project MKUltra began on this day in 1953 and continued for years

Many of the records from MKUltra have been destroyed, but 8,000 pages of records were discovered in 1977. (iStock)  
By [Kat Eschner](#)  
SMITHSONIANMAG.COM  
APRIL 13, 2017

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On this day in 1953, the then-Director of Central Intelligence officially approved project MKUltra. The project, which continued for more than a decade, was originally intended to make sure the United States government kept up with presumed Soviet advances in mind-control technology. It ballooned in scope and its ultimate result, among other things, was illegal drug testing on thousands of Americans. It wasn't the first time that the American government "without permission or notice, secretly gathered information on its people," [writes](#) Melissa Blevins for *Today I Found Out*. But MKUltra has gone down in history as a significant example of government abuse of human rights, and for good reason. The intent of the project was to study "the use of biological and chemical materials in altering human behavior," [according to](#) the official testimony of CIA director Stansfield Turner in 1977. The project was conducted in extreme secrecy, Turner said, because of ethical and legal questions surrounding the program and the negative public response that the CIA anticipated if MKUltra should become public.

From <<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/what-we-know-about-cias-midcentury-mind-control-project-180962836/>>

### Timeline

- 1950 - Project BLUEBIRD authorized by CIA
- 1951 - Project BLUEBIRD becomes PROJECT ARTICHOKE
  - Joint operation between CIA, Army, Navy, Airforce
- 1952 - Operation CASTIGATE run by Navy Project CHATTER experiments with truth serum
  - Fails badly, CHATTER never recovers and CIA gains ownership of mind control research
- 1953 - Project MKULTRA authorized by CIA
- 1955 - Operation MIDNIGHT CLIMAX setup in San Francisco
- 1957 - Montreal "Depatterning" experiments setup
- 1964 - Project MKULTRA becomes Project MKSEARCH
- 1968 - Project OFTEN started by US army
  - Investigate the effect of various drugs on humans/animals
- 1972 - Project MKSEARCH ended
  - Helms and Gottlieb order destruction of all MKULTRA records, some are spared due to clerical error
  - Watergate cause CIA director to order employees to report "illegal actions" they have conducted
- 1973 - Project OFTEN cancelled
- 1974 - Church committee formed to investigate CIA shenanigans
- 1976 - Ford signs executive order 11905
  - "Foreign intelligence agencies shall not engage in experimentation with drugs on human subjects, except with the informed consent..."
- 1981 - Reagan signs executive order 12333
  - "All human subjects experiments conducted by the Intelligence Community must meet DHS requirements, including informed consent."

**Project MKUltra** (or **MK-Ultra**) is the code name given to a program of [experiments on human subjects](#) that were designed and undertaken by the U.S. [Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA), some of which were illegal.<sup>[[c\]](#)][[2\]](#) Experiments on humans were intended to develop procedures and identify drugs such as [LSD](#) to be used in interrogations in order to weaken the individual and force confessions through [brainwashing](#) and [psychological torture](#). The project was organized through the [Office of Scientific Intelligence](#) of the CIA and coordinated with the [United States Army Biological Warfare Laboratories](#).<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> Other code names for drug-related experiments were [Project Bluebird](#) and [Project Artichoke](#).<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> The operation was officially sanctioned in 1953, reduced in scope in 1964 and further curtailed in 1967. It was officially halted in 1973. The program also engaged in illegal activities,<sup>[[4\]](#)][[5\]](#)]</sup> including the use of U.S. and Canadian citizens as its unwitting test subjects, which led to controversy regarding its legitimacy.<sup>[[2](#)][[3](#)][[4\]](#)][[6\]](#)]</sup> MKUltra used numerous methods to manipulate its subjects' mental states and brain functions. Techniques included the covert administration of high doses of [psychoactive drugs](#) (especially LSD) and other chemicals, [electroshocks](#),<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> [hypnosis](#),<sup>[[4\]](#)][[5\]](#)]</sup> [sensory deprivation](#), isolation, and [verbal](#) and [sexual abuse](#), in addition to other forms of [torture](#).<sup>[[4\]](#)][[7\]](#)]</sup> The scope of Project MKUltra was broad, with activities carried out under the guise of research at more than 80 institutions, including colleges and universities, hospitals, prisons, and pharmaceutical companies.<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> The CIA operated using [front organizations](#), although sometimes top officials at these institutions were aware of the CIA's involvement.<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> Project MKUltra was first brought to public attention in 1975 by the [Church Committee](#) of the [United States Congress](#) and [Gerald Ford's United States President's Commission on CIA activities within the United States](#) (also known as the Rockefeller Commission). Investigative efforts were hampered by CIA Director [Richard Helms](#)'s order that all MKUltra files be destroyed in 1973; the Church Committee and [Rockefeller Commission](#) investigations relied on the sworn testimony of direct participants and on the relatively small number of documents that survived Helms's destruction order.<sup>[[4\]](#)]</sup> In 1977, a [Freedom of Information Act](#) request uncovered a cache of 20,000 documents relating to project MKUltra which led to Senate hearings later that year.<sup>[[4\]](#)][[8\]](#)]</sup> Some surviving information regarding MKUltra was declassified in July 2001. In December 2018, declassified documents included a letter to an unidentified doctor discussing work on six dogs made to run, turn and stop via remote control and brain implants.<sup>[[4\]](#)][[9\]](#)]</sup></sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_MKUltra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra)>

History

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Background  
[Sidney Gottlieb](#) approved of an MKUltra sub-project on LSD in this June 9, 1953, letter.  
[Origin of cryptonym](#)[\[edit\]](#)

The project's [CIA cryptonym](#) is a combination of the [digraph](#) *MK*, indicating the sponsorship of the [Technical Services Staff](#) (TSS), and the word [Ultra](#) which formerly designated the most secret classification of [World War II](#) intelligence. Other related cryptonyms include [Project MKNAOMI](#) and [Project MKDELTA](#).

[Origin of project](#)[\[edit\]](#)  
According to author [Stephen Kinzer](#), the CIA project "was a continuation of the work begun in WWII-era [Japanese](#) facilities and [Nazi concentration camps](#) on subduing and controlling human minds". Kinzer wrote that MKUltra's use of [mescaline](#) on unwitting subjects was a practice that Nazi doctors had begun in the [Dachau concentration camp](#). Kinzer proposes evidence of the continuation of a Nazi agenda, citing the CIA's secret recruitment of Nazi torturers and [vivisectionists](#) to continue the experimentation on thousands of subjects, and Nazis brought to [Fort Detrick, Maryland](#), to instruct CIA officers on the lethal uses of [sarin gas](#).<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

[Aims and leadership](#)[\[edit\]](#)  
[Sidney Gottlieb](#), Sept. 21, 1977  
The project was headed by [Sidney Gottlieb](#) but began on the order of CIA director [Allen Dulles](#) on April 13, 1953.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[b\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[c\]](#)</sup> Its aim was to develop mind-controlling drugs for use against the [Soviet bloc](#) in response to alleged [Soviet](#), [Chinese](#), and [North Korean](#) use of mind control techniques on U.S. prisoners of war during the [Korean War](#).<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> The CIA wanted to use similar methods on their own captives, and was interested in manipulating foreign leaders with such techniques,<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> devising several schemes to drug [Fidel Castro](#). It often conducted experiments without the subjects' knowledge or consent.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> In some cases, academic researchers were funded through grants from CIA front organizations but were unaware that the CIA was using their work for these purposes.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> The project attempted to produce a perfect [truth drug](#) for interrogating suspected Soviet spies during the [Cold War](#), and to explore other possibilities of mind control. Subproject 54 was the Navy's top-secret "Perfect Concussion" program, which was supposed to use sub-aerial frequency blasts to erase memory; the program was never carried out.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> Most MKUltra records were destroyed in 1973 by order of CIA director [Richard Helms](#), so it has been difficult for investigators to gain a complete understanding of the more than 150 funded research subprojects sponsored by MKUltra and related CIA programs.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

The project began during a period of what English journalist [Rupert Cornwell](#) described as "paranoia" at the CIA, when the U.S. had lost its nuclear monopoly and [fear of communism](#) was at its height.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> CIA counter-intelligence chief [James Jesus Angleton](#) believed that a [mole](#) had penetrated the organization at the highest levels.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> The agency poured millions of dollars into studies examining ways to influence and control the mind and to enhance its ability to extract information from resistant subjects during interrogation.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[b\]](#)</sup> Some historians assert that one goal of MKUltra and related CIA projects was to create a "[Manchurian Candidate](#)"-style subject.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> American historian [Alfred W. McCoy](#) has claimed that the CIA attempted to focus media attention on these sorts of "ridiculous" programs so that the public would not look at the research's primary goal, which was effective methods of interrogation.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

[Scale of project](#)[\[edit\]](#)  
One 1955 MKUltra document gives an indication of the size and range of the effort. It refers to the study of an assortment of mind-altering substances described as follows:<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

1. Substances which will promote illogical thinking and impulsiveness to the point where the recipient would be discredited in public.
2. Substances which increase the efficiency of mentation and perception.
3. Materials which will prevent or counteract the intoxicating effect of alcohol.
4. Materials which will promote the intoxicating effect of alcohol.
5. Materials which will produce the signs and symptoms of recognized diseases in a reversible way so they may be used for malingering, etc.
6. Materials which will render the induction of hypnosis easier or otherwise enhance its usefulness.
7. Substances which will enhance the ability of individuals to withstand privation, torture, and coercion during interrogation and so-called "brain-washing".
8. Materials and physical methods which will produce amnesia for events preceding and during their use.
9. Physical methods of producing shock and confusion over extended periods of time and capable of surreptitious use.
10. Substances which produce physical disablement such as paralysis of the legs, acute anemia, etc.
11. Substances which will produce "pure" euphoria with no subsequent let-down.
12. Substances which alter personality structure in such a way the tendency of the recipient to become dependent upon another person is enhanced.
13. A material which will cause mental confusion of such a type the individual under its influence will find it difficult to maintain a fabrication under questioning.
14. Substances which will lower the ambition and general working efficiency of men when administered in undetectable amounts.
15. Substances which promote weakness or distortion of the eyesight or hearing faculties, preferably without permanent effects.
16. A knockout pill which can be surreptitiously administered in drinks, food, cigarettes, as an aerosol, etc., which will be safe to use, provide a maximum of amnesia, and be suitable for use by agent types on an ad hoc basis.
17. A material which can be surreptitiously administered by the above routes and which in very small amounts will make it impossible for a person to perform physical activity.

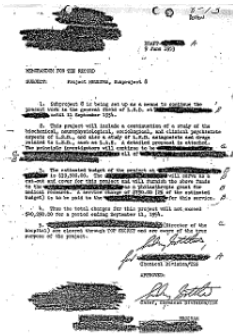
[Applications](#)[\[edit\]](#)  
The 1976 [Church Committee](#) report found that, in the MKDELTA program, "Drugs were used primarily as an aid to interrogations, but MKULTRA/MKDELTA materials were also used for harassment, discrediting or disabling purposes."<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[b\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[c\]](#)</sup>

[Other related projects](#)[\[edit\]](#)  
In 1964, MKSEARCH was the name given to the continuation of the MKULTRA program. The MKSEARCH program was divided into two projects dubbed [MKOFTEN](#) and [MKCHICKWIT](#). Funding for MKSEARCH commenced in 1965, and ended in 1971.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> The project was a joint project between the [U.S. Army Chemical Corps](#) and the CIA's [Office of Research and Development](#) to find new offensive-use agents, with a focus on [incapacitating agents](#). Its purpose was to develop, test, and evaluate capabilities in the covert use of biological, chemical, and radioactive material systems and techniques of producing predictable human behavioral and/or physiological changes in support of highly sensitive operational requirements.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

By March 1971 over 26,000 potential agents had been acquired for future screening.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> The CIA was interested in [bird migration](#) patterns for [chemical](#) and [biological warfare](#) (CBW) research; subproject 139 designated "Bird Disease Studies" at [Penn State](#).<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

MKOFTEN was to deal with testing and toxicological transmissivity and behavioral effects of drugs in animals and, ultimately, humans.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup> MKCHICKWIT was concerned with acquiring information on new drug developments in Europe and Asia, and with acquiring samples.<sup>[\[a\]](#)</sup>

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_MKUltra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra)



The Cold War and Project MK-Ultra

In the 1950s and 1960s—the height of the [Cold War](#)—the United States government feared that Soviet, Chinese and North Korean agents were using mind control to brainwash U.S. prisoners of war in Korea.

In response, Allan Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), approved Project MK-Ultra in 1953. The covert operation aimed to develop techniques that could be used against Soviet bloc enemies to control human behavior with drugs and other psychological manipulators.

The program involved more than 150 human experiments involving psychedelic drugs, paralytics and electroshock therapy. Sometimes the test subjects knew they were participating in a study—but at other times, they had no idea, even when the hallucinogens started taking effect.

Many of the tests were conducted at universities, hospitals or prisons in the United States and Canada. Most of these took place between 1953 and 1964, but it's not clear how many people were involved in the tests—the agency kept notoriously poor records and destroyed most MK-Ultra documents when the program was officially halted in 1973.

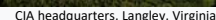
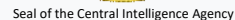
From <https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>

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Unlike the [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) (FBI), which is a domestic security service, the CIA has no law enforcement function and is officially mainly focused on overseas intelligence gathering, with only [limited domestic intelligence collection](#).<sup>[3]</sup> The CIA serves as the national manager for the coordination of HUMINT activities across the U.S. intelligence community. It is the only agency authorized by law to carry out and oversee [covert action](#) at the behest of the [President](#).<sup>[4][5][6]</sup> It exerts foreign political influence through its tactical divisions, such as the [Special Activities Center](#).<sup>[4]</sup> The CIA was also instrumental in establishing intelligence services in several U.S. allied countries, such as Germany's [BND](#). It has also provided support to many foreign political groups and governments, including planning, coordinating, training on torture, technical support, and was involved in several [regime changes](#), terrorist attacks, and planned assassinations of foreign leaders.<sup>[4][7]</sup>

The CIA has increasingly expanded its role, including covert [paramilitary](#) operations.<sup>[1]</sup> One of its largest divisions, the Information Operations Center (IOC), has officially shifted focus from [counter-terrorism](#) to offensive [cyber-operations](#).<sup>[2]</sup> The agency has been the subject of [many controversies](#), including [human rights violations](#), [domestic wiretapping](#) and [propaganda](#) and [allegations of drug trafficking](#). It has also appeared in [works of fiction](#), including books, films and video games.

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central\\_Intelligence\\_Agency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Intelligence_Agency)>



|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agency overview</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Formed</b>            | September 18, 1947; 73 years ago                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Preceding agency</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Office of Strategic Services</a><sup>[u]</sup></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Type</b>              | <a href="#">Independent</a> (component of the <a href="#">Intelligence Community</a> )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Headquarters</b>      | <a href="#">George Bush Center for Intelligence</a><br>Langley, Virginia, U.S.<br><br><br><span><a href="#">38°57′07″N 77°08′46″W</a></span> <span><a href="#">Coordinates</a>:</span><br><br><span><a href="#">38°57′07″N 77°08′46″W</a></span> |
| <b>Motto</b>             | "The Work of a Nation. The Center of Intelligence."<br>Unofficial motto: "And ye shall know the truth and <a href="#">the truth shall make you free.</a> " ( <a href="#">John 8:32</a> ) <sup>[u]</sup>                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Employees</b>         | 21,575 (estimate) <sup>[u]</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Annual budget</b>     | \$15 billion (as of 2013) <sup>[update]</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Agency executives</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">William Joseph Burns</a>, <a href="#">Director</a></li> <li><a href="#">David S. Cohen</a>, <a href="#">Deputy Director</a></li> <li><a href="#">Courtney Simmons Elwood</a>, General Counsel</li> </ul>                                                                         |
| <b>Website</b>           | <a href="#">www.cia.gov</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central\\_Intelligence\\_Agency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Intelligence_Agency)>

Allen Dulles

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**Allen Welsh Dulles** (/ˈdʌləs/; April 7, 1893 – January 29, 1969) was the first civilian [Director of Central Intelligence](#) (DCI), and its longest-serving director to date. As head of the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA) during the early [Cold War](#), he oversaw the [1953 Iranian coup d'état](#), the [1954 Guatemalan coup d'état](#), the [Lockheed U-2](#) aircraft program, the [Project MKUltra](#) mind control program and the [Bay of Pigs Invasion](#). He was fired by [John F. Kennedy](#) over the latter fiasco. Dulles was one of the members of the [Warren Commission](#) investigating the [assassination of John F. Kennedy](#). Between his stints of government service, Dulles was a corporate lawyer and partner at [Sullivan & Cromwell](#). His older brother, [John Foster Dulles](#), was the [Secretary of State](#) during the [Eisenhower Administration](#) and is the namesake of [Dulles Airport](#).<sup>[a]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allen\\_Dulles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allen_Dulles)>

**A NEW BIOGRAPHY TRACES THE PATHOLOGY OF ALLEN DULLES AND HIS APPALLING CABAL**  
Unless you believe we're governed by shape-shifting space lizards, your darkest suspicions about how the world works may be an underestimate.

**AS I READ *The Devil's Chessboard: Allen Dulles, the CIA, and the Rise of America's Secret Government*, a new book by [Salon](#) founder David Talbot, I couldn't help thinking of an obscure corner of 1970s history: the Safari Club.**  
Dulles — the Princeton man and white shoe corporate lawyer who served as CIA director from 1953 to 1961, still the longest tenure in agency history — died in 1969 before the Safari Club was conceived. And nothing about it appears in *The Devil's Chessboard*. But to understand the Safari Club is to understand Allen Dulles and his milieu.  
Any normal person would likely hear the Safari Club saga as a frightening story of totally unaccountable power. But if there's one thing to take away from *The Devil's Chessboard*, it's this: Allen Dulles would have seen it differently — as an inspiring tale of hope and redemption.  
Because what the Safari Club demonstrates is that Dulles' entire spooky world is beyond the reach of American democracy. Even the most energetic post-World War II attempt to rein it in was in the end as effective as trying to lasso mist. And today we've largely returned to the balance of power Dulles set up in the 1950s. As Jay Rockefeller [said](#) in 2007 when he was chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, "Don't you understand the way intelligence works? Do you think that because I'm chairman of the Intelligence Committee that I just say 'I want it, give it to me'? They control it. *All of it. All of it. All the time.*"  
**In February 2002, Saudi Prince Turki Al Faisal, head of Saudi intelligence from 1977 until September 1, 2001, traveled to Washington, D.C.**

While there, Turki, who'd graduated from Georgetown University in the same class as Bill Clinton, delivered a speech at his alma mater that included an [unexpected history lesson](#).  
In 1976, after the Watergate matters took place here, your intelligence community was literally tied up by Congress. It could not do anything. It could not send spies, it could not write reports, and it could not pay money. In order to compensate for that, a group of countries got together in the hope of fighting communism and established what was called the Safari Club. The Safari Club included France, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and Iran ... so, the Kingdom, with these countries, helped in some way, I believe, to keep the world safe when the United States was not able to do that. That, I think, is a secret that many of you don't know.  
Turki was not telling the whole truth. He was right that his Georgetown audience likely had never heard any of this before, but the Safari Club had been known across the Middle East for decades. After the Iranian revolution the new government gave [Mohamed Hassanein Heikal](#), one of the most prominent journalists in the Arab world, permission to examine the Shah's archives. There Heikal discovered the actual formal, written agreement between the members of the Safari Club, and wrote about it in a 1982 book called *[Iran: The Untold Story](#)*.

And the Safari Club was not simply the creation of the countries Turki mentioned — Americans were involved as well. It's true the U.S. executive branch was somewhat hamstrung during the period between the post-Watergate investigations of the intelligence world and the end of the Carter administration. But the powerful individual Americans who felt themselves "literally tied up" by Congress — that is, unfairly restrained by the most democratic branch of the U.S. government — certainly did not consider the decisions of Congress to be the final word. Whatever its funding sources, the evidence suggests the Safari Club was largely the initiative of these powerful Americans.  
According to Heikal, its real origin was when Henry Kissinger, then secretary of state, "talked a number of rich Arab oil countries into bankrolling operations against growing communist influence on their doorstep" in Africa. Alexandre de Marenches, a right-wing aristocrat who headed France's version of the CIA, eagerly formalized the project and assumed operational leadership. But, Heikal writes, "The United States directed the whole operation," and "giant U.S. and European corporations with vital interests in Africa" leant a hand. As John K. Cooley, the *Christian Science Monitor's* longtime Mideast correspondent, [put it](#), the setup strongly appealed to the U.S. executive branch: "Get others to do what you want done, while avoiding the onus or blame if the operation fails."

This all seems like something Americans would like to know, especially since de Marenches may have extended his covert operations to the 1980 U.S. presidential election. In 1992, de Marenches' biographer [testified in a congressional investigation](#) that the French spy told him that he had helped arrange an October 1980 meeting in Paris between William Casey, Ronald Reagan's 1980 campaign manager, and the new Islamic Republic of Iran. The goal of such a meeting, of course, would have been to persuade Iran to keep its American hostages until after the next month's election, thus denying Carter any last-minute, politically potent triumph.

De Marenches and the Safari Club certainly had a clear motive to oust Carter: They blamed him for allowing one of their chart members, the Shah, to fall from power. But whether de Marenches' claims were true or not, we do know that history unfolded exactly as he and the Safari Club would have wished. The hostages weren't released until Reagan was inaugurated, Reagan appointed Casey director of the CIA, and from that point forward America's intelligence "community" was back in business. And yet normal citizens would have a hard time just finding out the Safari Club even existed, much less the outlines of its activities. It appears to have been mentioned [just once](#) by the *New York Times*, in a profile of a French spy novelist. It likewise has made only one appearance in the *Washington Post*, in a [2005 online chat](#) in which a reader asked the *Post's* former Middle East bureau chief Thomas Lippman, "Does the Safari Club, formed in the mid-70s, still exist?" Lippman responded: "I never heard of it, so I have no idea."

**So it's really too bad Allen Dulles didn't live to see the Safari Club.**  
The fallout from Watergate initially would have horrified him, with mere elected members of Congress placing restrictions on patricians like himself. But he then would have been thrilled to see the ingenuity with which his heirs escaped those bonds, and deeply satisfied that the club did its work while staying hidden from the prying eyes of History.  
As Talbot points out, Dulles stated his worldview publicly and explicitly in 1938 during his only run for political office: "Democracy only works if the so-called intelligent people make it work. You can't sit back and let democracy run itself." Unsurprisingly, homilies like this did not carry him to victory. But so what? He went on to wield far greater power than most elected officials ever have. And while Dulles is the star of *The Devil's Chessboard*, he's surrounded by an enormous supporting cast.  
As Talbot [explains](#), "What I was really trying to do was a biography on the American power elite from World War II up to the 60s." It's a huge, sprawling book, and an amalgam of all the appalling things Dulles and his cohort definitely did, things the evidence suggests they *probably* did, and speculation about things they might plausibly have done. More than a biography, it's a exploration of well-organized pathology.  
It includes detailed reexaminations of Dulles's most notorious failures, such as the Bay of Pigs in 1961 and the nightmarish mind control program MK-ULTRA, as well as his most notorious "successes," the CIA's overthrow of democratic governments in Iran in 1953 and in Guatemala in 1954. Talbot notes that an internal CIA account of the Iran coup fairly [glowed with joy](#): "It was a day that never should have ended. For it carried with it such a sense of excitement, of satisfaction and of jubilation that it is doubtful whether any other can come up to it." According to a participant in an Oval Office briefing for President Eisenhower, Dulles's brother John Foster, then secretary of state, "seemed to be purring like a giant cat."

But by this point these events are fairly well-known. Perhaps most compelling is Talbot's in-depth look at Dulles's lesser-known yet still extraordinarily sordid projects. As the Swiss director of the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, Dulles — whose law firm had represented German corporations and many U.S. corporations with German interests — quietly attempted to undermine Franklin D. Roosevelt's demand that Germany surrender unconditionally, going so far as to lead the rescue of an SS general surrounded by Italian partisans. Dulles also led the push to save Reinhard Gehlen, Nazi head of intelligence on the Eastern Front and a genuine monster, from any post-war justice. Dulles then made certain Gehlen and his spies received a cozy embrace from the CIA, and helped push him to the top of West Germany's Federal Intelligence Service.  
Also gruesome is the lurid story of how Jesus de Galindez, a lecturer at Columbia University, was kidnapped in Manhattan by U.S. government cutouts and delivered to Dominican Republic dictator Rafael Trujillo. Trujillo then had Galindez, whose exposés of corruption Trujillo feared, boiled alive and fed to sharks, and ordered the murder of the American pilot who'd flown Galindez there. All under the beneficent gaze of CIA Director Allen Dulles.

In a sense, however, all of *The Devil's Chessboard* seems to exist to set the stage for the final chapters about the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy. In the first 500 pages you are convinced that Dulles would have had no moral qualms about killing any politician, including Americans. You learn Dulles had a lifetime of experience in arranging assassinations, and apparent ties to attempts to overthrow or murder French president Charles de Gaulle. And you discover the depth of his grudge against John F. Kennedy, who dismissed him and several of his key underlings after the Bay of Pigs.  
But were JFK and possibly Robert Kennedy killed by conspiracies involving Dulles? That's the conjecture of *The Devil's Chessboard*. There's no question Talbot has pulled together a lot of suggestive old information, and uncovered some that's new. Furthermore, he certainly proves there was a great deal of reluctance on the part of journalists and politicians at the time to pull even the most obvious threads. But 50 years later, I don't think there's any way to say much for sure on this subject, except that it's *pretty interesting*. (Given humanity's history of catastrophic slapstick, I've always enjoyed the theory that a Secret Service agent [shot Kennedy accidentally](#).)  
In the end, whatever the reality of Talbot's most sensational claims, he unquestionably makes the case that — unless you believe we're governed by [shape-shifting space lizards](#) — your darkest suspicions about how the world operates are likely an underestimate. Yes.

| Allen Dulles                                      |                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <span></span>                                     |                                                                                                              |
| Director of Central Intelligence                  |                                                                                                              |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                              |
| February 26, 1953 – November 29, 1961             |                                                                                                              |
| President                                         | <div><span>Dwight Eisenhower</span></div> <div><span>John F. Kennedy</span></div>                            |
| Deputy                                            | <span>Charles P. Cabell</span>                                                                               |
| Preceded by                                       | <span>Walter B. Smith</span>                                                                                 |
| Succeeded by                                      | <span>John McCone</span>                                                                                     |
| Deputy Director of Central Intelligence           |                                                                                                              |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                              |
| August 23, 1951 – February 26, 1953               |                                                                                                              |
| President                                         | <div><span>Harry S. Truman</span></div> <div><span>Dwight Eisenhower</span></div>                            |
| Preceded by                                       | <span>William H. Jackson</span>                                                                              |
| Succeeded by                                      | <span>Charles P. Cabell</span>                                                                               |
| Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Plans |                                                                                                              |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                              |
| January 4, 1951 – August 23, 1951                 |                                                                                                              |
| President                                         | <span>Harry S. Truman</span>                                                                                 |
| Preceded by                                       | Position established                                                                                         |
| Succeeded by                                      | <span>Frank Wisner</span>                                                                                    |
| Personal details                                  |                                                                                                              |
| Born                                              | <div>Allen Welsh Dulles</div> April 7, 1893 <div><span>Watertown, New York, U.S.</span></div>                |
| Died                                              | January 29, 1969 (aged 75) <div><span>Washington, D.C., U.S.</span></div>                                    |
| Resting place                                     | <span>Green Mount Cemetery</span>                                                                            |
| Political party                                   | <span>Republican</span>                                                                                      |
| Spouse(s)                                         | <div><span>Clover Todd</span></div> <div><span></span> (m.<span> </span>1920)</div>                          |
| Children                                          | 3                                                                                                            |
| Education                                         | <div><span>Princeton University (BA)</span></div> <div><span>George Washington University (LLB)</span></div> |

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allen\\_Dulles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allen_Dulles)>

**ON APRIL 10, 1953, ALLEN DULLES, THE NEWLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE CIA**, delivered a speech to a gathering of Princeton alumni. Though the event was mundane, global tensions were running high. The Korean War was coming to an end, and earlier that week, The New York Times had published a startling story asserting that American POWs returning from the country may have been “converted” by “Communist brain-washers.”

Some GI's were confessing to war crimes, like carrying out germ warfare against the Communists—a charge the U.S. categorically denied. Others were reportedly so brainwashed that they had [refused to return](#) to the United States at all. As if that weren't enough, the U.S. was weeks away from [secretly sponsoring](#) the overthrow of a democratically elected leader in Iran.

Dulles had just become the first civilian director of an agency growing more powerful by the day, and the speech provided an early glimpse into his priorities for the CIA. “In the past few years we have become accustomed to hearing much about the battle for men's minds—the war of ideologies,” [he told the attendees](#). “I wonder, however, whether we clearly perceive the magnitude of the problem, whether we realize how sinister the battle for men's minds has become in Soviet hands,” he continued. “We might call it, in its new form, “brain warfare.””

Dulles proceeded to describe the “Soviet brain perversion techniques” as effective, but “abhorrent” and “nefarious.” He gestured to the American POWs returning from Korea, shells of the men they once were, parroting the [Communist propaganda](#) they had heard cycled for weeks on end. He expressed fears and uncertainty—were they using chemical agents? Hypnosis? Something else entirely? “We in the West,” the CIA Director conceded, “are somewhat handicapped in brain warfare.” This sort of non-consensual experiment, even on one's enemies, was antithetical to American values, Dulles insisted, as well as antithetical to what should be human values

Furthermore, he certainly proves there was a great deal of reluctance on the part of journalists and politicians at the time to pull on even the most obvious threads. But 50 years later, I don't think there's any way to say much for sure on this subject, except that it's *pretty interesting*. (Given humanity's history of catastrophic slapstick, I've always enjoyed the theory that a Secret Service agent [shot Kennedy accidentally](#).)

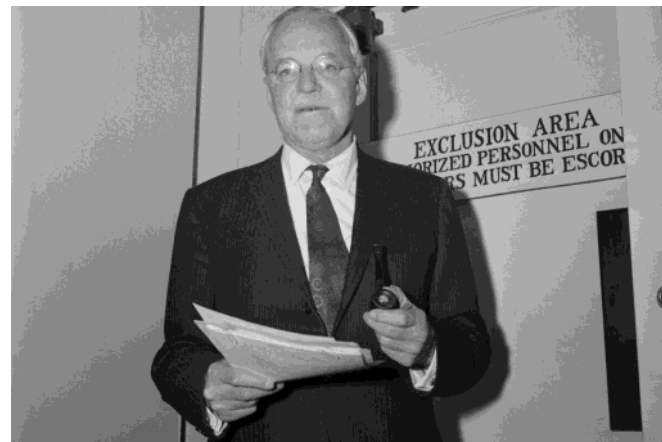
In the end, whatever the reality of Talbot's most sensational claims, he unquestionably makes the case that — unless you believe we're governed by [shape-shifting space lizards](#) — your darkest suspicions about how the world operates are likely an underestimate. Yes, there is an amorphous group of unelected corporate lawyers, bankers, and intelligence and military officials who form an American "[deep state](#)," setting real limits on the rare politicians who ever try to get out of line. They do collaborate with and nurture their deep state counterparts in other countries, to whom they feel far more loyalty than their fellow citizens. The minions of the deep state hate and fear even the mildest moves towards democracy, and fight against it by any means available to them. They're not all -powerful and don't get exactly what they want, but on the issues that matter most they almost always win in the end. And while all this is mostly right there in the open, discernible by anyone who's curious and has a library card, if you don't go looking you will never hear a single word about it.

Moreover, it's still right there in front of us today. Talbot [recently argued](#), "The surveillance state that Snowden and others have exposed is very much a legacy of the Dulles past. I think Dulles would have been delighted by how technology and other developments have allowed the American security state to go much further than he went."

Or as a staff member of the 1970s congressional investigation of Kennedy's murder said in an interview with Talbot: "One CIA official told me, 'So you're from Congress — what the hell is that to us? You'll be packed up and gone in a couple of years, and we'll still be here.'" According to *The Devil's Chessboard*, the Safari never ends.

From <https://theintercept.com/2015/11/02/the-deepest-state-the-safari-club-allen-dulles-and-the-devils-chessboard/>

expressed fears and uncertainty—were they using chemical agents? hypnosis? Something else entirely? "We in the West," the CIA Director conceded, "are somewhat handicapped in brain warfare." This sort of non-consensual experiment, even on one's enemies, was antithetical to American values, Dulles insisted, as well as antithetical to what should be human values.



Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency at an executive session of the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee. (Credit: Bettmann/Getty Images)

From <https://www.history.com/mkultra-operation-midnight-climax-cia-lsd-experiments>



# Richard Helms

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 6:01 PM

**Richard McGarrah Helms** (March 30, 1913 – October 23, 2002) was an American government official and diplomat who served as [Director of Central Intelligence](#) (DCI) from 1966 to 1973. Helms began intelligence work with the [Office of Strategic Services](#) during World War II. Following the 1947 creation of the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA) he rose in its ranks during the presidencies of Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy. Helms then was DCI under Presidents [Johnson](#) and [Nixon](#). As a professional, Helms highly valued information gathering (favoring the [interpersonal](#), but including the [technical](#), obtained by [espionage](#) or from published media) and its analysis while prizing [counterintelligence](#). Although a participant in planning such activities, Helms remained a skeptic about [covert](#) and [paramilitary](#) operations. Helms understood the bounds of the agency role as being able to express strong opinions over a decision under review, yet working as a team player once a course was set by the administration. It was the duty of the DCI to keep [official secrets](#) from press scrutiny. While working as the DCI, Helms managed the agency following the lead of his predecessor [John McCone](#). In 1977, as a result of earlier covert operations in Chile, Helms became the only DCI convicted of misleading Congress. Helms last post in government service was [Ambassador to Iran](#) from 1973 to 1977. Besides, Helms was a key witness before the Senate during its investigation of the CIA by the [Church Committee](#) in the mid-1970s, 1975 being called the "Year of Intelligence". This investigation was hampered severely by Helms having ordered the destruction of all files related to the CIA's [mind control program](#) in 1973.

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Helms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Helms)

| Richard Helms                                     |                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <span></span>                                     |                                                                                                                                         |
| United States Ambassador to Iran                  |                                                                                                                                         |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                                                         |
| April 5, 1973 – December 27, 1976                 |                                                                                                                                         |
| President                                         | <a href="#">Richard Nixon</a><br><a href="#">Gerald Ford</a>                                                                            |
| Preceded by                                       | <a href="#">Joseph S. Farland</a>                                                                                                       |
| Succeeded by                                      | <a href="#">William H. Sullivan</a>                                                                                                     |
| Director of Central Intelligence                  |                                                                                                                                         |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                                                         |
| June 30, 1966 – February 2, 1973                  |                                                                                                                                         |
| President                                         | <a href="#">Lyndon B. Johnson</a><br><a href="#">Richard Nixon</a>                                                                      |
| Deputy                                            | <a href="#">Rufus Taylor</a><br><a href="#">Robert E. Cushman Jr.</a><br><a href="#">Vernon A. Walters</a>                              |
| Preceded by                                       | <a href="#">William Raborn</a>                                                                                                          |
| Succeeded by                                      | <a href="#">James R. Schlesinger</a>                                                                                                    |
| Deputy Director of Central Intelligence           |                                                                                                                                         |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                                                         |
| April 28, 1965 – June 30, 1966                    |                                                                                                                                         |
| President                                         | <a href="#">Lyndon B. Johnson</a>                                                                                                       |
| Preceded by                                       | <a href="#">Marshall Carter</a>                                                                                                         |
| Succeeded by                                      | <a href="#">Rufus Taylor</a>                                                                                                            |
| Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Plans |                                                                                                                                         |
| <div><b>In office</b></div>                       |                                                                                                                                         |
| February 17, 1962 – April 28, 1965                |                                                                                                                                         |
| President                                         | <a href="#">John F. Kennedy</a><br><a href="#">Lyndon B. Johnson</a>                                                                    |
| Preceded by                                       | <a href="#">Richard M. Bissell, Jr.</a>                                                                                                 |
| Succeeded by                                      | <a href="#">Desmond Fitzgerald</a>                                                                                                      |
| Personal details                                  |                                                                                                                                         |
| Born                                              | <span>Richard McGarrah Helms</span> <div>March 30, 1913</div> <span><a href="#">St. Davids</a>, <span></span> Pennsylvania, U.S.</span> |
| Died                                              | <span>October 23, 2002 (aged 89)</span> <span><a href="#">Washington, D.C.</a>, <span></span> U.S.</span>                               |
| Resting place                                     | <a href="#">Arlington National Cemetery</a>                                                                                             |
| Relations                                         | <a href="#">Gates W. McGarrah</a> (grandfather)                                                                                         |
| Education                                         | <a href="#">Williams College</a> (BA)                                                                                                   |
| Military service                                  |                                                                                                                                         |
| Allegiance                                        | <span><span></span></span><br><a href="#">United States</a>                                                                             |
| Branch/service                                    | <span><span></span></span><br><a href="#">United States Navy</a>                                                                        |
| Years of service                                  | 1942–1946                                                                                                                               |
| Battles/wars                                      | <a href="#">World War II</a>                                                                                                            |

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Helms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Helms)

Sidney Gottlieb

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 6:35 PM

idney Gottlieb (August 3, 1918 – March 7, 1999) was an [American chemist](#) and [spymaster](#) who headed the [Central Intelligence Agency](#)'s 1950s and 1960s [assassination attempts](#) and [mind-control](#) program, known as [Project MKUltra](#).<sup>[1]</sup>

Contents

Early years and education[edit]

Gottlieb was born to [Hungarian Jewish](#) immigrant parents Fanny and Louis Gottlieb in [the Bronx](#) on August 3, 1918. A stutterer since childhood, he earned a master's degree in [speech therapy](#) from [San Jose State University](#) after retiring from the CIA. He was born with a [club foot](#), which got him rejected from military service in [World War II](#) but did not prevent his pursuit of [folk dancing](#), a lifelong passion.<sup>[2]</sup>

Gottlieb graduated from James Monroe High School in 1936, and enrolled in the free [City College](#) in NYC. He decided to transfer to a school that offered a legitimate agricultural biology course, and wished to attend the University of Wisconsin. In order to take the specialized courses he wished to have, he first attended [Arkansas Tech University](#), where he studied botany, organic chemistry, and principles of dairying. His success at ATU won him admission to the University of Wisconsin, where he was mentored by [Ira Baldwin](#), the assistant dean of the College of Agriculture. Gottlieb graduated [magna cum laude](#) in 1940. His accomplishments at the university, paired with a glowing recommendation from Baldwin, won him admission to the [California Institute of Technology](#), where he received his [Doctorate](#) in [Biochemistry](#) in June 1943, writing his thesis on "Studies of Ascorbic Acid in Cowpeas."

Gottlieb met his first wife, Margaret Moore, while attending CIT, and they swiftly married. Denied the chance at military service, he sought out another way to serve, and began looking for government work in Washington. By 1948, his wife and two daughters were living in a remote cabin near Vienna, Virginia, that had no electricity or running water. He was living he re when he began working for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and his lifestyle was a stark contrast to that of the Ivy League men normally recruited at CIA.

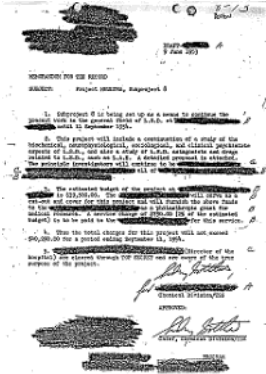
Government career[edit]

Gottlieb's first government position was at the [Department of Agriculture](#), where he researched the chemical structure of organic soils. He later transferred to the [Food and Drug Administration](#), where he developed tests to measure the presences of drugs in the human body. Gottlieb grew bored of this work and sought a more challenging position. In 1948, he found a job at the [National Research Council](#), where he described being exposed to "interesting work concerning ergot alkaloids as vasoconstrictors and hallucinogens." He soon relocated to the University of Maryland as a research associate dedicated to studying metabolisms of fungi.<sup>[3]</sup>

On July 13, 1951, Gottlieb had his first day of work at CIA. Then-Deputy Director for Plans [Allan Dulles](#) hired Gottlieb on Baldwin's recommendation. Baldwin had founded and run the biowarfare program at [Fort Detrick](#) years earlier, and had kept Gottlieb in his orbit throughout the years. The CIA was ramping up its search for a way to control the human minds, falsely believing the [Soviet Union](#) and Communist [China](#) had already mastered the process and would soon use it against them. This paranoia was a driving force of the early CIA and their forays into mind control operations. [Project Bluebird](#) was already under way when Gottlieb was brought on board; it experimented "Special Interrogation" techniques on captured prisoners overseas at black sites like [Camp King](#), [Fort Clayton](#), and [Villa Schuster](#), using drugs to attempt to break their ego control and elicit information. But Bluebird lacked scientific knowledge and obedience; Dulles wanted Gottlieb to get it back on course. After going through training, Gottlieb was named chief of the newly formed Chemical Division of the [Technical Services Staff](#) (TSS). On August 20, 1951, Dulles ordered Bluebird to be expanded and centralized, and renamed the Project [Artichoke](#), which quickly became a power base for Gottlieb. Dulles was promoted to Deputy Director of Central Intelligence days after intensifying the scale of Artichoke. This assured protection and encouragement for all of Gottlieb's future mind -control projects from the highest levels of the U.S. government. Dulles and Gottlieb both believed there was a way to influence and control the human mind that could lead to global mastery. They also wanted a "truth serum", something that had been investigated during the days of the [OSS](#) but never fully realized. Gottlieb conducted experiments using [THC](#), cocaine, heroin, and [mescaline](#) before realizing [LSD](#) had not been properly tested or investigated by the agency. After trying LSD for the first time himself, Gottlieb accelerated LSD experiments at the agency, testing it on agents who agreed to be dosed under controlled environments and some who agreed to be dosed by surprise. LSD had been invented only a decade earlier, and few Americans knew it existed. After months of experimenting on agents and prisoners left Gottlieb unsatisfied, he sought help from the Special Operations Division at Detrick. With this agreement, the CIA acquired the knowledge and facilities of the Army to develop bioweapons suited for the CIA.<sup>[4]</sup>

Gottlieb's first 18 months at the agency led to some frustrating truths. The drugs he was experimenting with were not the "truth serums" he wanted them to be, and often hindered interrogations rather than aiding them. Gottlieb knew Dulles, now the Director of Central Intelligence under [President Eisenhower](#), would approve anything he wanted to do, and this increased his ambitions. He hatched a new idea that consumed Artichoke and gave him authority over all CIA research into mind control, including the ability to test drugs on unwitting and unwitting Americans, which was not being done under Artichoke. Gottlieb and [Richard Helms](#), then-Chief of Operations for Directorate of Plans, wrote a memorandum to send to Dulles.<sup>[5]</sup> Dulles formally approved [MK-ULTRA](#) on April 13, 1953. His brother, [John Foster Dulles](#), was tapped for Secretary of State, giving even further diplomatic cover to the project. On April 10, three days before giving MK -ULTRA the stamp of approval, Dulles described the program and others like it in a [speech](#) to alumni at Princeton University, referencing the new battlefield of "brain warfare" and the battle for controlling the mind of man. Dulles disguised his program by describing it as something the Soviet Union was doing rather than something he was pioneering himself.

Gottlieb selected multiple researchers, scientists, and ex-OSS members to work for him under MK-ULTRA "Subprojects." Those contracted conducted experiments on Gottlieb's behalf and reported their findings to him. He sponsored physicians such as [Ewen Cameron](#) and [Harris Isbell](#) in controversial psychiatric research including [nonconsensual human experiments](#).<sup>[6]</sup> Gottlieb administered [LSD](#) and other [hallucinogenic drugs](#) to unwitting subjects and financed psychiatric research and development of "techniques that would crush the human psyche to the point that it would admit anything".<sup>[7]</sup> <sup>[citation needed]</sup> He was named as the person who gave Army bacteriologist [Frank Olson](#) LSD, leading to Olson's death.



Gottlieb approved Project MKULTRA's "Subproject 8" on LSD in this June 9, 1953 memo. ( [Redactions](#) obscure much of the context.) Gottlieb was the liaison to the military subcontractor [Lockheed](#), then working for the CIA on [Project AQUATONE](#), later known as the [U-2 spy plane](#). In 1953 he arranged a [safe house](#) for the Lockheed Aeronautics Services Division (LASD) with an easy and

| Sidney Gottlieb                           |                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <span></span> <div>Gottlieb in 1977</div> |                                                                                                |
| Born                                      | August 3, 1918 <div>New York City, New York</div>                                              |
| Died                                      | February 7, 1999 (aged 80) <div>Washington, Virginia</div>                                     |
| Education                                 | Arkansas Tech University <div>University of Wisconsin</div> California Institute of Technology |
| Organization                              | <a href="#">Central Intelligence Agency</a>                                                    |
| Known for                                 | <a href="#">Project MK-Ultra</a> <a href="#">Poison Development</a>                            |
| Spouse(s)                                 | Margaret Moore                                                                                 |
| Parent(s)                                 | Fanny Gottlieb Louis Gottlieb                                                                  |

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidney\\_Gottlieb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidney_Gottlieb)

exclusive egress.<sup>[[citation needed](#)]</sup>

By 1955 Project MK-ULTRA had outgrown its government funding. At this point Subproject 27<sup>[a]</sup> (basic research of LSD) was a funding subproject that combined previous subprojects, including payment to [Sandoz Pharmaceuticals](#) for LSD, [John Mulholland's](#) *The Official CIA Manual of Trickery and Deception* (subproject 15 magic support, Mulholland Supplement), and further procurement of LSD (subproject 18), but it grew to almost 150 documented subprojects, including a microwave gun and the search for alternatives to LSD, which led to later programs like [Project MKCHICKWIT](#), most of which focused on South America.<sup>[[citation needed](#)]</sup>

In addition to working with subcontractors, the CIA worked with the [Advanced Research Projects Agency](#) (ARPA) of the [Department of Defense](#) and the [Office of Naval Intelligence](#), though it is unclear what role Gottlieb played in these affairs other than authorization.<sup>[[citation needed](#)]</sup>

In March 1960, under [The Cuban Project](#), a CIA plan approved by [President Eisenhower](#)—and under the direction of CIA Directorate for Plans [Richard M. Bissell](#)—Gottlieb proposed spraying [Fidel Castro's](#) television studio with [LSD](#) and saturating Castro's shoes with [thallium](#) to make his beard fall out. Gottlieb also hatched schemes to assassinate Castro, including the use of a poisoned cigar, a poisoned wetsuit, an exploding [conch shell](#), and a poisonous [fountain pen](#).<sup>[a]</sup> Gottlieb also played a role in the CIA's attempt to assassinate Prime Minister [Patrice Lumumba](#) of the Congo. He took a vial of poison to the Congo with plans to place it on Lumumba's toothbrush in the summer of 1960.<sup>[a][a]</sup> He transported these "toxic biological materials" to [Larry Devlin](#), the CIA station chief in the Congo, and although Devlin declined the assignment, a [military coup](#) soon overthrew and killed Lumumba.<sup>[a]</sup> Gottlieb also wanted [Iraqi](#) General [Abdul Karim Qassim](#)'s handkerchief to be contaminated with [botulinum](#).<sup>[a]</sup>

**Retirement and death**<sup>[[edit](#)]</sup>

Gottlieb retired from the CIA in 1972, saying he did not believe his work had been effective. Visited in retirement by the son of his late colleague [Frank Olson](#), he was residing in an "[ecologically correct](#)" home in [Culpeper, Virginia](#), where he raised goats, ate yogurt and advocated peace and [environmentalism](#).<sup>[a]</sup> He and his wife spent 18 months running a leper hospital in [India](#). He had two sons and two daughters.<sup>[a]</sup>

On October 7, 1975, Gottlieb testified before the [Church Committee](#) under the alias "Joseph Schneider." He did not reveal much in his testimony, besides saying he had destroyed nearly all records of what he did during his time at the agency. Gottlieb was never convicted of any crimes. Few historical studies mention his name.<sup>[a]</sup>

On March 7, 1999, Gottlieb died at his home in [Washington, Virginia](#).<sup>[a]</sup> He was reported to have a history of heart problems,<sup>[a]</sup> but his wife declined to give the cause of death.<sup>[a]</sup>

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidney\\_Gottlieb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidney_Gottlieb) >



## Drugs

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:48 PM

### LSD and Sidney Gottlieb

The CIA began to experiment with [LSD](#) (lysergic acid diethylamide) under the direction of agency chemist and poison expert Sidney Gottlieb. He believed the agency could harness the drug's mind-altering properties for brainwashing or psychological torture.

Under the auspices of Project MK-Ultra, the CIA began to fund studies at Columbia University, Stanford University and other colleges on the effects of the drug. After a series of tests, the drug was deemed too unpredictable for use in counterintelligence.

MK-Ultra also included experiments with [MDMA](#) (ecstasy), mescaline, [heroin](#), barbiturates, [methamphetamine](#) and psilocybin ("magic mushrooms").

From <<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>>

**LSD**<sup>[edit]</sup>

Early CIA efforts focused on [LSD-25](#), which later came to dominate many of MKUltra's programs.<sup>[a]</sup> The CIA wanted to know if they could make Soviet spies defect against their will and whether the Soviets could do the same to the CIA's own operatives.<sup>[a]</sup>

Once Project MKUltra got underway in April 1953, experiments included administering LSD to mental patients, prisoners, drug addicts, and sex workers – "people who could not fight back," as one agency officer put it.<sup>[a]</sup> In one case, they administered LSD to a mental patient in Kentucky for 174 days.<sup>[a]</sup> They also administered LSD to CIA employees, military personnel, doctors, other government agents, and members of the general public to study their reactions. LSD and other drugs were often administered without the subject's knowledge or [informed consent](#), a violation of the [Nuremberg Code](#) the U.S. had agreed to follow after World War II. The aim of this was to find drugs which would bring out deep confessions or wipe a subject's mind clean and program them as "a robot agent."<sup>[a]</sup>

In [Operation Midnight Climax](#), the CIA set up several [brothels](#) within agency safehouses in San Francisco to obtain a selection of men who would be too embarrassed to talk about the events. The men were dosed with LSD, the brothels were equipped with [one-way mirrors](#), and the sessions were filmed for later viewing and study.<sup>[a]</sup> In other experiments where people were given LSD without their knowledge, they were interrogated under bright lights with doctors in the background taking notes. They told subjects they would extend their "trips" if they refused to reveal their secrets. The people under this interrogation were CIA employees, U.S. military personnel, and agents suspected of working for the other side in the Cold War. Long-term debilitation and several deaths resulted from this.<sup>[a]</sup> [Heroin](#) addicts were bribed into taking LSD with offers of more heroin.<sup>[a][b]</sup>

At the invitation of Stanford psychology graduate student Vik Lovell, an acquaintance of [Richard Alpert](#) and [Allen Ginsberg](#), [Ken Kesey](#) volunteered to take part in what turned out to be a CIA-financed study under the aegis of MKUltra,<sup>[a]</sup> at the [Menlo Park Veterans' Hospital](#)<sup>[a][b]</sup> where he worked as a night aide.<sup>[a]</sup> The project studied the effects of [psychoactive drugs](#), particularly [LSD](#), [psilocybin](#), [mescaline](#), [cocaine](#), [AMT](#) and [DMT](#) on people.<sup>[a]</sup>

The Office of Security used LSD in interrogations, but Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, the chemist who directed MKUltra, had other ideas: he thought it could be used in covert operations. Since its effects were temporary, he believed it could be given to high-ranking officials and in this way affect the course of important meetings, speeches, etc. Since he realized there was a difference in testing the drug in a laboratory and using it in clandestine operations, he initiated a series of experiments where LSD was given to people in "normal" settings without warning. At first, everyone in Technical Services tried it; a typical experiment involved two people in a room where they observed each other for hours and took notes. As the experimentation progressed, a point arrived where outsiders were drugged with no explanation whatsoever and surprise acid trips became something of an occupational hazard among CIA operatives. Adverse reactions often occurred, such as an operative who received the drug in his morning coffee, became psychotic and ran across Washington, seeing a monster in every car passing him. The experiments continued even after [Frank Olson](#), an army chemist who had never taken LSD, was covertly dosed by his CIA supervisor and nine days later plunged to his death from the window of a 13th-story New York City hotel room, supposedly as a result of deep depression induced by the drug.<sup>[a]</sup> According to [Stephen Kinzer](#), Olson had approached his superiors some time earlier, doubting the morality of the project, and asked to resign from the CIA.<sup>[a]</sup>

Some subjects' participation was consensual, and in these cases they appeared to be singled out for even more extreme experiments. In one case, seven volunteers in [Kentucky](#) were given LSD for seventy-seven consecutive days.<sup>[a]</sup>

MKUltra's researchers later dismissed LSD as too unpredictable in its results.<sup>[a]</sup> They gave up on the notion that LSD was "the secret that was going to unlock the universe," but it still had a place in the cloak-and-dagger arsenal. However, by 1962 the CIA and the army developed a series of super-hallucinogens such as the highly touted [BZ](#), which was thought to hold greater promise as a mind control weapon. This resulted in the withdrawal of support by many academics and private researchers, and LSD research became less of a priority altogether.<sup>[a]</sup>

**Other drugs**<sup>[edit]</sup>

Another technique investigated was the [intravenous](#) administration of a [barbiturate](#) into one arm and an [amphetamine](#) into the other.<sup>[a]</sup> The barbiturates were released into the person first, and as soon as the person began to fall asleep, the amphetamines were released. The person would begin babbling incoherently, and it was sometimes possible to ask questions and get useful answers.

Other experiments involved [heroin](#), [morphine](#), [temazepam](#) (used under code name MKSEARCH), [mescaline](#), [psilocybin](#), [scopolamine](#), [alcohol](#) and [sodium pentothal](#).<sup>[a]</sup>

**Hypnosis**<sup>[edit]</sup>

Declassified MKUltra documents indicate they studied [hypnosis](#) in the early 1950s. Experimental goals included creating "hypnotically induced anxieties", "hypnotically increasing ability to learn and recall complex written matter", studying hypnosis and [polygraph](#) examinations, "hypnotically increasing ability to observe and recall complex arrangements of physical objects", and studying "relationship of personality to susceptibility to hypnosis"<sup>[a]</sup> They conducted experiments with drug-induced hypnosis and with [anterograde](#) and [retrograde amnesia](#) while under the influence of such drugs.

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_MKUltra#LSD](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra#LSD)>

## Operation Midnight Climax

Operation Midnight Climax was an MK-Ultra project in which government-employed prostitutes lured unsuspecting men to CIA "safe houses" where drug experiments took place.

The CIA dosed the men with LSD and then—while at times drinking cocktails behind a two-way mirror—watched the drug's effects on the men's behavior. Recording devices were installed in the prostitutes' rooms, disguised as electrical outlets.

Most of the Operation Midnight Climax experiments took place in [San Francisco](#) and Marin County, [California](#), and in [New York City](#). The program had little oversight and the CIA agents involved admitted that a freewheeling, party-like atmosphere prevailed.

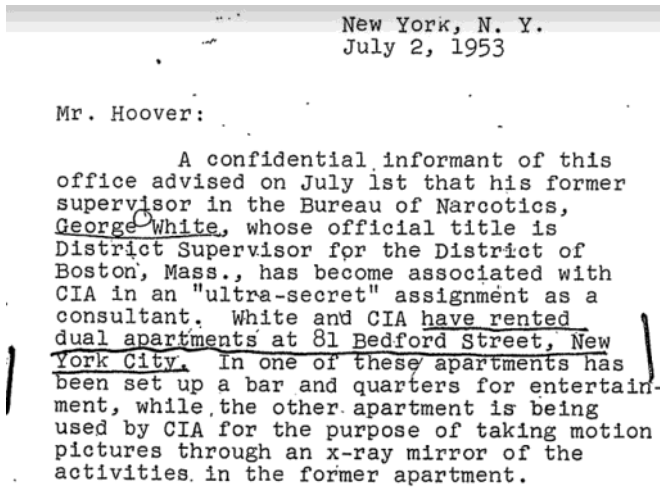
An agent named George White wrote to Gottlieb in 1971: "Of course I was a very minor missionary, actually a heretic, but I toiled wholeheartedly in the vineyards because it was fun, fun, fun. Where else could a red-blooded American boy lie, kill and cheat, steal, deceive, rape and pillage with the sanction and blessing of the All-Highest?"

From <https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>

### OPERATION MIDNIGHT CLIMAX

With a true mission relegated to secret bosses and shadow fronts, one operation, directed by Bureau of Narcotics agent, George H. White, became especially questionable.

Essentially, he set up a brothel in which the US government paid for prostitutes to lure clients to a safe house, drug them, and then "watch what happened" through cameras and two-way mirrors in the rooms.



Recruiting a few prostitutes to establish a cover, it's unclear how willing the sex workers were to drug unwilling participants for the government. White, however, cared little about a participant's willingness. After his advances were denied by a local club singer, Ruth Kelly, he drugged her with LSD just before she went up to perform on stage to—once again—"see what happens." She made it through her performance and escaped to a hospital before the agent could intercept her.

"It was fun, fun, fun. Where else could a red-blooded American boy lie, kill, cheat, steal, rape, and pillage with the sanction and blessing of the All-Highest?"—George H. White



George H. White

From <https://www.ripleys.com/weird-news/project-mkultra/>

Operation Midnight Climax was an operation carried out by the [CIA](#) as a sub-project of [Project MKUltra](#), the mind-control research program that began in the 1950s. It was initially established in 1954 by [Sidney Gottlieb](#) and placed under the direction of the [Federal Narcotics Bureau](#) in [Boston](#), Massachusetts with the officer [George Hunter White](#) under the [pseudonym](#) of Morgan Hall.<sup>[a]</sup> Hundreds of federal agents, field operatives, and scientists worked on these programs before they were shut down in the 1960s.

#### Contents

#### History<sup>[edit]</sup>

The project that started in 1954 consisted of a web of CIA-run [safehouses](#) in [San Francisco](#) and [Mill Valley, California](#), and [New York City](#).<sup>[a]</sup> It was established in order to study the effects of [LSD](#) on [unconsenting](#) individuals. [Prostitutes](#) on the CIA payroll were instructed to lure clients back to the safehouses, where they were surreptitiously plied with a wide range of substances, including LSD, and monitored behind [one-way glass](#). The prostitutes were instructed in the use of post-coital questioning to investigate whether the victims could be convinced to involuntarily reveal secrets. The victims were sometimes fed subliminal messages in attempts to induce them to involuntary actions, including criminal activity such as robbery, assault, and assassination. Many of the CIA operatives involved in the experiments voluntarily indulged in the drugs and prostitutes for recreational purposes.<sup>[a]</sup> Every one of these acts was blatantly illegal and several significant operational techniques were developed in this theater, including extensive research into sexual [blackmail](#), surveillance technology and the possible use of mind-altering drugs in field operations.<sup>[a]</sup> The Operation Midnight Climax program was soon expanded, and CIA operatives began dosing people in restaurants, bars and beaches.<sup>[a]</sup> The extent to which this widespread exposure of the public to mind-altering drugs contributed to the rise of the counter-culture movement in the late 1950s and 1960s is unknown, although [Ken Kesey](#) has attributed his role in the genesis of the influential San Francisco Bay Area psychedelic social scene that developed in the 1960s to his participation in [Project MKUltra](#) LSD experiments at the Menlo Park, California, VA Hospital. The safehouses were dramatically scaled back in 1963, following a report by CIA Inspector General John Earman which strongly recommended closing the facility. The San Francisco safehouses were closed in 1965, and the New York City safehouse soon followed in 1966.<sup>[a]</sup>

In 1974, the journalist [Seymour Hersh](#) exposed the CIA's illegal spying on U.S. citizens and how the CIA had conducted non-consensual drug experiments. His report started the lengthy process of bringing long-suppressed details about MKUltra to light.<sup>[a]</sup> Project MKUltra came to light in the spring of 1977 during a wide-ranging survey of the CIA's Technical Services Division. John K. Vance, a member of the CIA inspector general's staff, discovered that the agency was running a research project that included administering LSD and other drugs to unwilling human subjects.<sup>[a]</sup>

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_Midnight\\_Climax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Midnight_Climax)

## The CIA's Operation 'Midnight Climax' Was Exactly What It Sounded Like

Agents lured johns to brothels for drug-laced encounters



WIB HISTORY August 23, 2018 [Darlen Cavanaugh](#)  
CIA20

This story originally appeared on Sept. 17, 2016.

On April 13, 1953, CIA director Allen Dulles authorized Project MKULTRA, the controversial series of experiments aimed at developing mind control techniques and discovering a "truth drug."

Agents dosed subjects with LSD and other psychotropic narcotics, hypnotized them, and exposed them to radiation and electroshock therapy. Some of the participants volunteered, but others did so unwillingly and unwittingly.

The CIA attempted to destroy all records of the program, leaving behind only seven boxes of official files overlooked during the document purge. But a few stories survived. One of the strangest revolves around a series of uncontrolled experiments named Operation Midnight Climax.

CIA operatives involved with Midnight Climax hired prostitutes in San Francisco to lure clients back to brothels. Once there, the agents secretly drugged their targets and watched them engage in sexual activities from behind a two-way mirror.

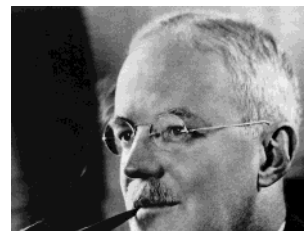
America's spies began [searching for mind-control substances](#) during World War II. As the conflict raged, the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor of the CIA, implemented a truth-drug program in hopes of discovering a means to coerce prisoners-of-war to reveal their secrets during interrogations.

The OSS initially toyed with a concentrated liquid form of marijuana rather than the newly discovered LSD, according to journalist Gary Kamiya [writing in the San Francisco Chronicle](#). George White, an OSS captain and ex-federal narcotics agent, gave the first dose to a New York mobster in 1943.

"Every (subject) but one—and he didn't smoke — gave us more information than we had before," one of White's colleagues recalled. However, the results were ultimately deemed "inconclusive," Kamiya wrote.

As World War II ended and the Korean War intensified, the CIA and the Pentagon grew concerned over [reports](#) that foreign intelligence agencies had developed brainwashing methods of their own. These rumors inspired the classic Cold War film *The Manchurian Candidate*.

MKULTRA was, at least in part, a response to this perceived threat.





George H. White

From <<https://www.ripleys.com/weird-news/project-mkultra/>>



At top — 'Au Salon de la rue des Moulins' by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. Illustration via [The York Project](#) Above — CIA Director Allen Dulles, U.S. government photo

Sidney Gottlieb, the head of the Chemical Division of the CIA's Technical Services Division, urged Dulles to approve testing LSD as a potential mind-control or brainwashing substance.

Dulles agreed.

Gottlieb brought White, a "rock-em, sock-em cop not overly carried away with playing spook" into the program as a "consultant," according to one [account](#).

White started in Greenwich Village, where he administered "LSD, knockout drops and marijuana to his unwitting 'guests' using food, drinks and cigarettes, then tried to get them to talk," Kamiya wrote.

It didn't take White long to veer the experiments in the direction of illicit sex. He transferred to San Francisco in 1955 and set up a brothel in the city's Telegraph Hill neighborhood. He wanted the spot to have "a French-whorehouse look," Kamiya added.

The operative decorated the walls with Toulouse-Lautrec prints, photos of can-can dancers, and images of women in bondage and S&M scenarios. To complete the setup, he installed two-way mirrors for agents to sit behind and watch.

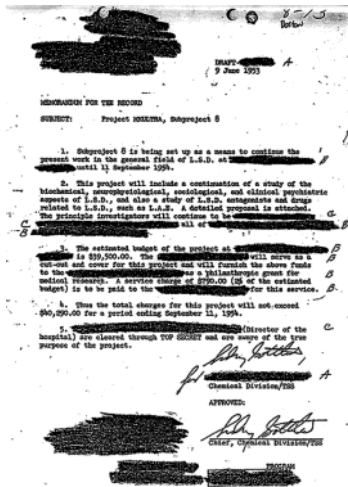
"It was supposed to look rich, but it was furnished like crap," one narcotics agent who frequented the location told John Marks, author of [The Search for the "Manchurian Candidate:" The CIA and Mind Control](#).

The prostitutes picked up the johns at local bars and brought them back to the makeshift brothel. White his fellow agents preferred men from working class or financially disadvantaged backgrounds. The idea was that subjects with limited social status would attract the least attention, and be less likely to cause any issues.

"An unsuspecting john would think he had bought a night of pleasure, go back to a strange apartment, and wind up zonked," Marks wrote.

Of course, official documents employed vague, bureaucratic language when portraying the encounters. A report written by Gottlieb that survived the purge described the process as follows: "Certain individuals [the prostitutes] would covertly administer this material [the drugs] to other people [the johns] in accordance with [White's] instructions."

White paid the women with agency funds and [chits](#) "they could use for favors such as getting out of jail," Kamiya added.



A comically redacted MKULTRA report. Photo via Wikimedia

Gottlieb was aware the financial scheme could be dangerous. "Due to the highly unorthodox nature of these activities and the considerable risk incurred by these individuals, it is impossible to require that they provide a receipt for these payments or that they indicate the precise manner in which funds were spent," he wrote in his report.

But the MKULTRA team considered the first San Francisco safe house such a success that they

opened a second one across the Golden Gate Bridge in Marin County. White also oversaw this operation.

"You could bring people in for quickies after lunch," one MKULTRA agent told Marks of the Telegraph Hill address.

The suburban Marin County location, on the other hand, provided a greater sense of isolation and secrecy, allowing for more elaborate—and ridiculous—experiments.

Marks wrote:

"There TSS [Technical Services Staff] scientists tested such MKULTRA specialties as stink bombs, itching and sneezing powders, and diarrhea inducers. TSS's Ray Treichler, the Stanford chemist, sent these harassment substances out to California for testing by White, along with such delivery systems as a mechanical launcher that could throw foul-smelling objects 100 yards, glass ampules that could be stepped on in a crowd to release any of Treichler's powders, a fine hypodermic needle to inject drugs through the cork in a wine bottle, and drug coated swizzle sticks."

The secret doping experiments didn't end there, nor did the operatives' choice of drugs and *targets* stay confined to johns. "If we were scared enough of a drug not to try it out on ourselves, we sent it to San Francisco," a CIA source [told](#) Marks.

Wayne Ritchie, a deputy U.S. Marshal, unknowingly drank an LSD contaminated beverage at a Christmas party. Out of his mind, he attempted to rob a bar at gunpoint, according to a [haunting account at S.F. Weekly](#). He resigned from the Marshals Service but avoided jail.

White's journal indicated he was *also* at the party. Ritchie went on to sue the U.S. government but was unable to prove the CIA dosed him.

The agency shut down MKULTRA in the late 1960s after John Vance of the CIA's inspector general's office [discovered](#) the experiments. However, two related programs, MKSEARCH and Project OFTEN, continued until 1972 and 1973, respectively.

There were real human victims as a result of these programs, including [at least one death](#). Numerous subjects suffered [permanent](#) mental and psychological degradation.

At the least, Operation Midnight Climax was a failure and an embarrassment for the CIA. It provided inconclusive, unscientific results with scant actionable intelligence applications. It besmirched the reputation of the CIA, both in terms of ethics and practicality, and negatively affected the lives of hundreds of people.

From <https://warisboring.com/the-cia-operation-midnight-climax-was-exactly-what-it-sounded-like/>

## George Hunter White

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 6:38 PM

### The LSD Chronicles: George Hunter White Part I



In a prior [installment](#) of my ongoing "LSD Chronicles" series I considered the legendary figure of Albert 'Captain Trips' Hubbard, a human being frequently described as "the Johnny Appleseed of LSD." In that posting I argued that Hubbard, a former [OSS](#) man, represented the benevolent side of the US intelligence [community's](#) involvement with LSD. Hubbard was a kind of warped idealist who recognized the incredible possibilities of the drug, albeit in his own authoritarian way. Still, his ideology did not fit in with the brainwashing program that was increasingly becoming an obsession amongst the infantile US intelligence community, especially the CIA, in the early 1950s. Thus, Hubbard would always remain on the fringes of said community after World War II.

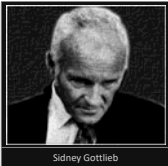


One of Hubbard' former associates in the OSS, the predecessor to the CIA, would also develop a fascination with LSD in the Cdd Wars years. But whereas Hubbard saw LSD's potential to heal this individual seemingly possessed a perverse fixation with the drug's ability to harm. As the title of this post indicates, I am of course referring to the mysterious figure known as George Hunter White.

White is a figure that crops up time and again when one researches the US government's involvement in the spread of LSD. While Hubbard is widely credited with the drug's rapid spread to the general public White also played a major role in this regard. The series of infamous safehouses that he set up in New York City (specifically in Greenwich Village) and San Francisco, for which he is most well known for, would dose countless unwitting Americans with LSD and other narcotics throughout the 1950s and early 60s. Growing evidence indicates that White did not restrict his LSD experiments to these CIA-approved safehouses, but that he also dosed numerous friends and associates (of which he had many), in many cases without their knowledge.

Beyond his involvement with LSD, White also had ties to the US intelligence community's assassination programs and organized crime links. Indeed, White was associated with any number of unsavory activities on the CIA's behalf throughout the 1950s and early 1960s. He once boasted to MK-Ultra chief Sidney [Gottlieb](#):

"I was a very minor missionary, actually a heretic, but I toiled wholeheartedly in the vineyards because it was fun, fun, fun. Where else could a red-blooded American boy lie, kill, cheat, steal, rape, and pillage with the sanctions and blessing of the All-Highest?"



In theory White was everything any red-blooded boy growing up in America during the 1950s should have aspired to be. Much of his career was spent working for the Federal Bureau of [Narcotics](#) with periodic ventures into the world of intelligence. The strongly-built White was both a hard boiled cop and spy who worked tirelessly to make the streets safe from dope and Commies. Or at least this was White's public persona, anyway. By his own admission White was rather fond of many of the underworld figure he came into contact with while working as a narcotics officers, forging close personal and professional ties with more than a few of them. What's more, White seemingly enjoyed drugs as much as he did busting dope dealers and took an almost perverse interest in administering LSD to people he came into contact with long before the public had any concept of what the drug did. White also had what could be charitably described as a rather adventurous sex life that brought him into contact with numerous prostitutes as well as pornographers. If anything, White exceeded Hubbard in both his contradictions and his appetites.

White is generally depicted as a rather buffoonish figure in most accounts of the CIA's LSD ventures and not without reason. As hinted at above, White had quite a streak of recklessness and libertinism. And yet he would have an enormous influence on the early CIA, mentoring several of its most powerful figures. This piece shall be an attempt to examine and explain the strange life and times of George Hunter White.



White was born in Los Angeles on June 22, 1908, a day before the historic date of Midsummer's [Eve](#) and a day after the actual summer solstice of 1908 (at least according to this [website](#)). White's father was a Bank of America official who was eventually elected to the mayorship of Alhambra. Upon coming of age of White began working as a reporter, first in San Francisco and later in Los Angeles, beginning in 1929. He immediately displayed ample skills working undercover, making the young journalist long for a profession that was more clandestine and exciting. "...White realized that his prowess for infiltrating groups could be put to a more exciting and satisfying use. He attempted to join the notorious LA Narcotics Squad, but there were no openings. White is quoted as saying to squad director Captain Edward Chitwood, "Newspapering is all right, but it makes a bystander out of you. I want to get out on the field, where the game is going on." White quit journalism in 1931 when the Hearst conglomerate took over his Los Angeles employer. From 1932 to 1934, he worked in California for former Justice Department agent, Harold H. Dolley, a noted private detective and state law enforcement official. Dolley became White's early mentor and taught the twenty-two year old everything he knew about investigative work. Dolley was also responsible for having infamous West Coast 'rope,' or swindler, Iris Ford, privately tutor White in the intricacies of her trade. Following Dolley's sudden death in San Diego, White went on to work for the U.S. Immigration Service's Border Patrol on August 30, 1934."

(A *Terrible Mistake*, H.P. Albarelli Jr., pg. 395)  
White reportedly [oathed](#) his time with the Border Patrol. Shortly after joining he made friends with several Federal Bureau of Narcotics officers working along the border. Impressed with White's work, they encouraged him to apply for a position with the FBN. White took the entrance exam in 1935 and was hired in 1936 with a bit of assistance from a friend of his father. U.S. Senator William Gibbs [McAdoo](#).

If you're a student of intelligence, MKULTRA, human experimentation, or the history of LSD, you surely know about the CIA's sleazy operation in two Greenwich Village apartments in the early 1950s. One was made into a brothel where the prostitutes secretly dosed men with LSD, Sodium Pentothal ("truth serum"), and other drugs while spooks in the adjoining apartment filmed the proceedings through a two-way mirror. George White ran that operation, called Midnight Climax. (He later moved the proceedings to [San Francisco](#).)

White was a high-ranking, two-fisted member of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, an ancestor of the Drug Enforcement Administration. He was also a CIA asset and had been a spy-trainer for the OSS. Here's the FBI's recently released file on him, which shows, among other things, that the Bureau was onto White during his MKULTRA experiment in New York.

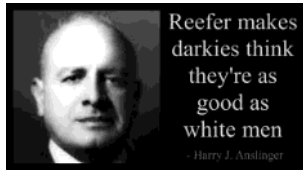
From <http://thememoryhole2.org/blog/fbi-george-white>





McAdoo

The notorious FBN director Harry [Anslinger](#) had initial misgivings about White, who indeed struggled during his early years with the Bureau. But by 1937 White had secured a major drug bust against opium smuggler Jimmy Wong, netting 50 arrests nation wide and hundreds of pounds of drugs seized. From there his star was on the rise and he found himself promoted to the Bureau's highly coveted Manhattan office. White's posting there coincided with the heyday of organized crime in America, providing ample opportunities for headline grabbing drug busts White seized the day and quickly became one of Anslinger's favorite and most trusted agents. When World War II broke out Anslinger himself requested that White join the OSS, realizing his skills and underworld connections would be invaluable to America's infantile intelligence agency.



The OSS quickly realized White's value and sent for highly specialized training at the mysterious [Camp X](#).

"George White received his earliest indoctrination into the art of clandestine operations in 1942 at the ominously named Camp X. Located on the north shore of Lake Ontario, between the Canadian towns of Oshawa and Whitby, the camp was the first paramilitary training school in North America. Established in December 1941, just one day before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, the 270-acre site was operated by Britain's ultra-secret Special Operations Executive. SOE had been formed as a branch of MI-6 in July 1940, after Winston Churchill instructed his military advisers to counter Nazi blitzkrieg victories and 'set Europe ablaze.' SOE's first order of business was to recruit and train hundreds of secret agents, who were responsible for advancing sabotage, subversion, and organized resistance against Axis occupied areas. Camp X, also called Project J and STS-103, offered its carefully selected students a full curriculum in the techniques of guerrilla warfare, covert action, and assassination. In his diary entry for February 28, 1942, just three days after he arrived there, White referred to the Ontario site as 'the school of murder and mayhem.'

"Training at Camp X was extremely rigorous. Recruits were routinely roused well before dawn to perform several hours of strenuous physical exercise before they were allowed a Spartan morning meal consisting of little more than a glass of milk and a hard roll. Then it was on to a full day of classes with instructions on subjects like 'Close Combat,' 'Small and Concealed Weapons,' and 'Silent Killing.' The camp featured a number of extremely difficult 'infiltration courses,' one of which featured a large swamp dubbed 'Lake Oshawa' by SOE instructors; for more substantial water exercise, the frigid waters of Lake Ontario were only twenty minutes away. Camp X's training ethos was kept simple; it revolved around the mantra, 'kill or be killed.' Several times a week, trainees would participate in group jiu jitsu training, led by their chief instructor, British Major William Ewart Fairbairn, during which words were chanted, in cadence with martial movements, for hours on end. Said one former student years later, 'It turned our values upside down and we wondered about making a world fit for terrorists.'"

(ibid, pgs. 393-394)



Camp X

Even as White was undergoing his own basic training he was also being groomed to become a trainer himself.

"White was sent to Camp X not only to be trained, but also to become a trainer himself, which he did when he was assigned in 1942 as Branch Chief of Schools and Training for the OSS Counter-Espionage Division in Washington D.C. Subsequently, he became Deputy Chief of Counter-Espionage, or X-2, as it was commonly called. In his trainer role, White rotated among several secret sites, including Area B3, a 9,000-acre center hidden away in Maryland's Cotoctin Mountain Park, a few miles from today's Camp David Presidential retreat. Another secret training site was known as Area A2, a 5,000-acre wooded site near Quantico, Virginia. 'The Farm,' located forty miles from Washington, D.C., was a third site. White's own training continued, as well. In May 1942, together with Garland Williams and Phillip Strong, White took a brief break from his trainer's position to attend a six-week advanced commando and parachute school in Virginia.

"Among White's first OSS students were several novice officers who would later become top CIA officials: Richard Helms, Frank Wisner, Jr., James Jesus Angelton, Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, Jr., Thomas Karmessines, and William Colby. Several other notable students were anthropologists Carlton S. Coon and Gregory Bateson, psychologist Dr. James Hamilton, future Federal Narcotics agent Howard C. Huppell, and Alfred M. Hubbard, an elusive and fascinating figure who arrived at OSS's Area B fresh from a stint in prison."

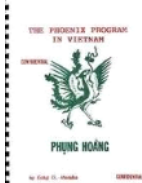
(ibid, pgs. 398-399)



Helms (top) and Colby (bottom), two of White's more noted students

Two of White's former students, Richard [Helms](#) and William [Colby](#), would go on to become directors of the CIA while [Wisner](#) and [Angeltion](#) would head extremely powerful and influential departments within the CIA. Angelton would later become one of the first CIA men to approach George White about working for the Agency while Wisner and Helms oversaw MK-Ultra throughout its run -- In fact, Helms hid aspects of MK-Ultra, including White's safes, from then-CIA director John [McCone](#) while serving as deputy-director and later ordered the shredding of all MK-Ultra documents as the director. William Colby headed the highly controversial, Vietnam-based Phoenix [Program](#) before becoming the CIA director in 1973. Colby was later linked to the highly controversial Project [Monarch](#) allegations by Nebraska state senator John [DeCamp](#), who participated in the Phoenix Program himself under Colby.





Needless to say, these men would have an enormous influence on America's Cold War-era intelligence strategy, which included ventures into brainwashing and mind control, domestic propaganda [blitzes](#), [collaboration](#) with Nazi war criminals, assassinations, terrorism, and so forth. And they all received their initial training from George Hunter White and would look to White to carry out highly sensitive field operations later on with the CIA.

During World War II White specialized in training but his considerable espionage skills were also required in the field from time to time. He is credited with helping establish the OSS, and later CIA, field office in Rome and is also alleged to have assassinated a Japanese spy in Calcutta during 1943. White also conducted field research for Division 19. Division 19, which also directed Camp X, is one of the most highly secretive programs run by the United States government during World War II, much of it still being classified to this day.

"Division 19 had been a highly secret operation tucked away within the National Defense Research Committee's Office of Scientific Research and Development. Established on June 28, 1941 by Roosevelt's Executive Order, Division 19 was run by Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell... Most of the documents concerning the work of the Division 19 are still classified and may never be released for public scrutiny. However, a few declassified files exist and although they are sketchy, they do reveal the scope and, sometimes, the specifics of certain Division 19 projects...

"Other Division 19 programs... were far more lethal. Many were taken over by SOD and the CIA during the fury of the Cold War, including the CIA's cautious alliance with the Mafia, as well as with the OSS's highly classified assassination programs. The latter were recast by the CIA as 'executive action,' 'health alteration' and 'incapacitation' programs. Well before the CIA was conceived, at the height of World War I, Division 19, through the OSS, began the systematic recruitment of underworld figures that were most adept at 'close-in killing methods...'

"Given the cornucopia of lethal weapons and innovative equipment that Division 19 came up with for the OSS --including silent pistols, signet rings containing L-pill Zyankalium ('L' for lethal), and poison dart pens --one can easily see how the division served as a model for the CIA's Technical Services Section.

"Details about the actual mechanics of the OSS assassination programs are scant, but we are able to catch a glimpse through the recollections of former government-paid 'professional killer' Michael Milan. Milan, a nom-de-plume, reveals in his tell-all book, *The Squad*, that he was recruited by the OSS on the recommendation of Manhattan's Republican boss, Sam Koenig. As Milan put it, he was hired to be a 'triggerman to work military bases on the East Coast.' Born and raised in Manhattan's Lower East Side, Milan was trained by a mobster named August 'Little Augie' Del Grazio. Milan was 'running the skim' for Meyer Lansky and Benny Siegel and claims that he committed a number of assassinations under the direction of Office of Naval Intelligence Capt. Roscoe McCall." (ibid, pgs. 66-67)



Mob Boss Meyer Lansky, a figure associates of George White had close ties too

White would maintain close ties with various organized crime figures throughout his career, including Del Grazio, as we shall see. For now, let us consider one of White's most curious assignments for Division 19: field work on its 'truth drug' program. This program apparently took place in conjunction with the Manhattan [Project](#).

"...the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), America's wartime intelligence agency, set up a 'truth drug' committee under Dr. Winfred Overholser, head of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington. The committee quickly tried and rejected mescaline, several barbiturates, and scopolamine. Then, during the spring of 1943, the committee decided that *cannabis indica* --or marijuana --showed the most promise, and it started a testing program in cooperation with the Manhattan Project, the TOP SECRET effort to build an atomic bomb. It is not clear why OSS turned to the bomb makers for help, except that, as one former Project official puts it, 'Our secret was so great, I guess we were safer than anyone else.' Apparently, top Project leaders, who went to incredible lengths to preserve security, saw no danger in trying out drugs on their personnel...

"...They decided that the best way to administer the marijuana was inhalation of its fumes. Attempts were made to pour the solution on burning charcoal, and an OSS officer named George White (who had already succeeded in knocking himself out with an overdose of the relatively potent substance) tried out the vapor, without sufficient effect, at St. Elizabeth's. Finally, the OSS group discovered a delivery system which had been known for years to jazz musicians and other users: the cigarette. OSS documents reported that smoking a mix of tobacco and the marijuana essence brought on a 'state of irresponsibility, causing the subject to be loquacious and free in his impartation of information.'

"The first field test of these marijuana-laced cigarettes took place on May 27, 1943. The subject was one August Del Gracio, who was described in OSS documents as a 'notorious New York gangster.' George White, an Army captain who had come to OSS from the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, administered the drug by inviting Del Gracio up to his apartment for a smoke and a chat. White had been talking to Del Gracio earlier about securing the Mafia's cooperation to keep Axis agents out of the New York waterfront and to prepare the way for the invasion of Sicily.

"Del Gracio had already made it clear to White that he personally had taken part in killing informers who had squealed to the Feds. The gangster was as tough as they came, and if he could be induced to talk under the influence of a truth drug, certainly German prisoners could --or so the reasoning went. White plied him with cigarettes until 'subject became high and extremely garrulous.' Over the next two hours, Del Gracio told the Federal agent about the ins and outs of the drug trade (revealing information so sensitive that the CIA deleted it from the OSS documents it released 34 years later). At one point in the conversation, after Del Gracio had begun to talk, the gangster told White, 'Whatever you do, don't ever use any of the stuff I'm telling you.' In a subsequent session, White packed the cigarettes with so much marijuana that Del Gracio became unconscious for about an hour. Yet, on the whole the experiment was considered a success in 'loosening the subject's tongue.'

"While members of the truth-drug committee never believed that the concentrated marijuana could compel a person to confess his deepest secrets, they authorized White to push ahead with the testing. On the next stage, he and a Manhattan Project counterintelligence man borrowed 15 to 18 thick dossiers from the FBI and went off to try the marijuana on suspected Communist soldiers stationed in military camps outside Atlanta, Memphis, and New Orleans."

(*The Search for the "Manchurian Candidate"*, John Marks, pgs. 6-8)



in *A Terrible Mistake: The Murder of Frank Olson and the CIA's Cold War Experiments* author H.P. Albarelli Jr. makes no mention of the truth drug committee being connected with the Manhattan Project beyond a few scientists being unwittingly dosed. He also asserts that White informed MK-Ultra director Sidney Gottlieb that the reports about cannabis and Del Gracio had been greatly over exaggerated. When asked by Gottlieb if he believed cannabis was less than idea as a truth drug, White agreed, stating he believed a better drug might be available and that the committee had not had the time to study everything that was out there. This would not be a problem for MK-Ultra.

And it is here that I shall wrap things up for the time being. In the second part of this series I shall examine White's post-World War II ventures into truth drugs, organized crime and assassinations, all under the auspices of the CIA. Stay tuned.

From <http://visupview.blogspot.com/2012/12/the-isd-chronicles-george-hunter-white.html>

# Documents

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:51 PM

## The Black Vault and the 2004 FOIA Document Release

The Black Vault filed a FOIA request for all documents pertaining to MKULTRA and related projects back in the late 1990s. Despite the reports that MKULTRA documents were destroyed in 1973, the CIA did locate some files and I was told that these documents were being reviewed.

For YEARS I waited, and was never contacted back by the CIA. In time, the CIA DID release the documents on four CD-ROMs. I received these documents back in 2004, and was one of the first (if not the first) to have uploaded the ENTIRE collection of MKULTRA records to the internet.

Below, you will find the links to the data on the CD-ROMS as originally received.

Originally, the CIA directories contained .tif images of the documents (not my favorite format) and two other files. The .txt file is a poor excuse for a OCR (optical character recognition) of the document, and a .dat file which contains a one line description, as found in the index below.

This has been an extremely popular dataset since I first added it, and in March of 2017 — expanded the original CIA release with a newer, updated, searchable PDF format consisting of their original .TIF file releases.

[MKULTRA CIA Document Index](#) [85 Pages, 6.2MB] — [Start here!](#) This will list documents archived on the CD-ROMs below. You can just start browsing the CD's below by clicking on one and browsing around. I also included a .ZIP file of the CD-ROM as they were obtained from the CIA. In addition, I have created an archived of .PDF files, all searchable, which are now

## Original CD-ROM Archive Datasets

### Browse CD-ROMs:

- [CD-ROM #1](#) — ( [ZIP file](#) ) 227 MB
- [CD-ROM #2](#) — ( [ZIP file](#) ) 279 MB
- [CD-ROM #3](#) — ( [ZIP file](#) ) 332 MB
- [CD-ROM #4](#) — ( [ZIP file](#) ) 345 MB

### Download Entire 1.1 Gigabyte Dataset

In March of 2017, The Black Vault converted the entire above collection into text-searchable .pdf files. I created a .ZIP file of the entire directory structure, and the .PDF files for download. Please note: The original .tif, .dat and .txt files were removed in this .zip since they are now unneeded. (Note: This does NOT include the new 2018 releases below.)

[ [.zip \(File Size: 1.1GB\): MIRROR #1 \(TBV\)](#) | [MIRROR #2 \(Internet Archive\)](#) ]

[ [torrent: MIRROR #1 \(Internet Archive\)](#) ]

### The Missing Pages

In March of 2016, Oscar Diggs, a visitor to The Black Vault, found the MKULTRA collection I put online. He then painstakingly reviewed the index of files, and the released records for comparison, to see if they matched. He compiled a list of all the missing documents, or portions thereof, and sent me the below index of all that he found that was missing.

Here was his list from the above index that were not put onto the original CD-ROMs:

21787, 21788, 21789, 21790, 21791, 21792, 21793, 21794, 21795, 21796, 21797, 21798, 21799, 21800, 21801, 21802, 21803, 21805, 21806, 21808, 21809, 21811, 21812, 21813, 21814, 21816, 21817, 21818, 21821, 21823, 21824, 21825, 21826, 21827, 21828, 21829, 21830, 21831, 21832, 21833, 21834, 21835, 21836, 21837, 21838, 21839, 21840, 21841, 21842, 21843, 21844, 21845, 21846, 21849, 21850, 21851, 21852, 21853, 21854, 21855, 21856, 21857, 21858, 21860, 21861, 21862, 21863, 21864, 21865, 21866, 21867, 21868, 21869, 21870, 21871, 21872, 21873, 21875, 21876, 21877, 21878, 21879, 21880, 21881, 21882, 21884, 21885, 21886, 21887, 21888, 21889, 21890, 21891, 21892, 21893, 21894, 21895, 21896, 21897, 21898, 21899, 21900, 21901, 21902, 21903, 21904, 21905, 21906, 21907, 21908, 21909, 21910, 21911, 21912, 21913, 21914, 21915, 21916, 21917, 21918, 21919, 21920, 21921, 21922, 21923, 21924, 21925, 21926, 21928, 21929, 21930, 21931, 21932, 21933, 21934, 21935, 21936, 21937, 21938, 21939, 21940, 21941, 21942, 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## Montreal Experiments

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:55 PM

Experiments on Canadians<sup>[edit]</sup>



Donald Ewen Cameron c. 1967

The CIA exported experiments to Canada when they recruited British psychiatrist [Donald Ewen Cameron](#), creator of the "psychic driving" concept, which the CIA found interesting. Cameron had been hoping to correct schizophrenia by erasing existing memories and reprogramming the psyche. He commuted from [Albany, New York](#) to [Montreal](#) every week to work at the [Allan Memorial Institute of McGill University](#), and was paid \$69,000 from 1957 to 1964 (which would be US\$579,480 in 2021, adjusting for inflation) to carry out MKUltra experiments there, the [Montreal experiments](#). These research funds were sent to Cameron by a CIA front organization, the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology, and as shown in internal CIA documents, Cameron did not know the money came from the CIA.<sup>[a][b][c][d][e][f][g][h][i][j][k][l][m][n][o][p][q][r][s][t][u][v][w][x][y][z][aa][ab][ac][ad][ae][af][ag][ah][ai][aj][ak][al][am][an][ao][ap][aq][ar][as][at][au][av][aw][ax][ay][az][ba][bb][bc][bd][be][bf][bg][bh][bi][bj][bk][bl][bm][bn][bo][bp][bq][br][bs][bt][bu][bv][bw][bx][by][bz][ca][cb][cc][cd][ce][cf][cg][ch][ci][cj][ck][cl][cm][cn][co][cp][cq][cr][cs][ct][cu][cv][cw][cx][cy][cz][da][db][dc][dd][de][df][dg][dh][di][dj][dk][dl][dm][dn][do][dp][dq][dr][ds][dt][du][dv][dw][dx][dy][dz][ea][eb][ec][ed][ee][ef][eg][eh][ei][ej][ek][el][em][en][eo][ep][eq][er][es][et][eu][ev][ew][ex][ey][ez][fa][fb][fc][fd][fe][ff][fg][fh][fi][fj][fk][fl][fm][fn][fo][fp][fq][fr][fs][ft][fu][fv][fw][fx][fy][fz][ga][gb][gc][gd][ge][gf][gg][gh][gi][gj][gk][gl][gm][gn][go][gp][gq][gr][gs][gt][gu][gv][gw][gx][gy][gz][ha][hb][hc][hd][he][hf][hg][hh][hi][hj][hk][hl][hm][hn][ho][hp][hq][hr][hs][ht][hu][hv][hw][hx][hy][hz][ia][ib][ic][id][ie][if][ig][ih][ii][ij][ik][il][im][in][io][ip][iq][ir][is][it][iu][iv][iw][ix][iy][iz][ja][jb][jc][jd][je][jf][jg][jh][ji][jj][jk][jl][jm][jn][jo][jp][jq][jr][js][jt][ju][jv][jw][jx][jy][jz][ka][kb][kc][kd][ke][kf][kg][kh][ki][kj][kk][kl][km][kn][ko][kp][kq][kr][ks][kt][ku][kv][kw][kx][ky][kz][la][lb][lc][ld][le][lf][lg][lh][li][lj][lk][ll][lm][ln][lo][lp][lq][lr][ls][lt][lu][lv][lw][lx][ly][lz][ma][mb][mc][md][me][mf][mg][mh][mi][mj][mk][ml][mm][mn][mo][mp][mq][mr][ms][mt][mu][mv][mw][mx][my][mz][na][nb][nc][nd][ne][nf][ng][nh][ni][nj][nk][nl][nm][no][np][nq][nr][ns][nt][nu][nv][nw][nx][ny][nz][oa][ob][oc][od][oe][of][og][oh][oi][oj][ok][ol][om][on][oo][op][oq][or][os][ot][ou][ov][ow][ox][oy][oz][pa][pb][pc][pd][pe][pf][pg][ph][pi][pj][pk][pl][pm][pn][po][pp][pq][pr][ps][pt][pu][pv][pw][px][py][pz][qa][qb][qc][qd][qe][qf][qg][qh][qi][qj][qk][ql][qm][qn][qo][qp][qq][qr][qs][qt][qu][qv][qw][qx][qy][qz][ra][rb][rc][rd][re][rf][rg][rh][ri][rj][rk][rl][rm][rn][ro][rp][rq][rr][rs][rt][ru][rv][rw][rx][ry][rz][sa][sb][sc][sd][se][sf][sg][sh][si][sj][sk][sl][sm][sn][so][sp][sq][sr][ss][st][su][sv][sw][sx][sy][sz][ta][tb][tc][td][te][tf][tg][th][ti][tj][tk][tl][tm][tn][to][tp][tq][tr][ts][tt][tu][tv][tw][tx][ty][tz][ua][ub][uc][ud][ue][uf][ug][uh][ui][uj][uk][ul][um][un][uo][up][uq][ur][us][ut][uu][uv][uw][ux][uy][uz][va][vb][vc][vd][ve][vf][vg][vh][vi][vj][vk][vl][vm][vn][vo][vp][vq][vr][vs][vt][vu][vv][vw][vx][vy][vz][wa][wb][wc][wd][we][wf][wg][wh][wi][wj][wk][wl][wm][wn][wo][wp][wq][wr][ws][wt][wu][wv][ww][wx][wy][wz][xa][zb][zc][zd][ze][zf][zg][zh][zi][zj][zk][zl][zm][zn][zo][zp][zq][zr][zs][zt][zu][zv][zw][zx][zy][zz]</sup>

In addition to LSD, Cameron also experimented with various paralytic drugs as well as [electroconvulsive therapy](#) at thirty to forty times the normal power. His "driving" experiments consisted of putting subjects into drug-induced comas for weeks at a time (up to three months in one case) while playing [tape loops](#) of noise or simple repetitive statements. His experiments were often carried out on patients who entered the institute for common problems such as [anxiety disorders](#) and [postpartum depression](#), many of whom suffered permanent effects from his actions.<sup>[a][b][c][d][e][f][g][h][i][j][k][l][m][n][o][p][q][r][s][t][u][v][w][x][y][z][aa][ab][ac][ad][ae][af][ag][ah][ai][aj][ak][al][am][an][ao][ap][aq][ar][as][at][au][av][aw][ax][ay][az][ba][bb][bc][bd][be][bf][bg][bh][bi][bj][bk][bl][bm][bn][bo][bp][bq][br][bs][bt][bu][bv][bw][bx][by][bz][ca][cb][cc][cd][ce][cf][cg][ch][ci][cj][ck][cl][cm][cn][co][cp][cq][cr][cs][ct][cu][cv][cw][cx][cy][cz][da][db][dc][dd][de][df][dg][dh][di][dj][dk][dl][dm][dn][do][dp][dq][dr][ds][dt][du][dv][dw][dx][dy][dz][ea][eb][ec][ed][ee][ef][eg][eh][ei][ej][ek][el][em][en][eo][ep][eq][er][es][et][eu][ev][ew][ex][ey][ez][fa][fb][fc][fd][fe][ff][fg][fh][fi][fj][fk][fl][fm][fn][fo][fp][fq][fr][fs][ft][fu][fv][fw][fx][fy][fz][ga][gb][gc][gd][ge][gf][gg][gh][gi][gj][gk][gl][gm][gn][go][gp][gq][gr][gs][gt][gu][gv][gw][gx][gy][gz][ha][hb][hc][hd][he][hf][hg][hh][hi][hj][hk][hl][hm][hn][ho][hp][hq][hr][hs][ht][hu][hv][hw][hx][hy][hz][ia][ib][ic][id][ie][if][ig][ih][ii][ij][ik][il][im][in][io][ip][iq][ir][is][it][iu][iv][iw][ix][iy][iz][ja][jb][jc][jd][je][jf][jg][jh][ji][jj][jk][jl][jm][jn][jo][jp][jq][jr][js][jt][ju][jv][jw][jx][jy][jz][ka][kb][kc][kd][ke][kf][kg][kh][ki][kj][kk][kl][km][kn][ko][kp][kq][kr][ks][kt][ku][kv][kw][kx][ky][kz][la][lb][lc][ld][le][lf][lg][lh][li][lj][lk][ll][lm][ln][lo][lp][lq][lr][ls][lt][lu][lv][lw][lx][ly][lz][ma][mb][mc][md][me][mf][mg][mh][mi][mj][mk][ml][mm][mn][mo][mp][mq][mr][ms][mt][mu][mv][mw][mx][my][mz][na][nb][nc][nd][ne][nf][ng][nh][ni][nj][nk][nl][nm][no][np][nq][nr][ns][nt][nu][nv][nw][nx][ny][nz][oa][ob][oc][od][oe][of][og][oh][oi][oj][ok][ol][om][on][oo][op][oq][or][os][ot][ou][ov][ow][ox][oy][oz][pa][pb][pc][pd][pe][pf][pg][ph][pi][pj][pk][pl][pm][pn][po][pp][pq][pr][ps][pt][pu][pv][pw][px][py][pz][qa][qb][qc][qd][qe][qf][qg][qh][qi][qj][qk][ql][qm][qn][qo][qp][qq][qr][qs][qt][qu][qv][qw][qx][qy][qz][ra][rb][rc][rd][re][rf][rg][rh][ri][rj][rk][rl][rm][rn][ro][rp][rq][rr][rs][rt][ru][rv][rw][rx][ry][rz][sa][sb][sc][sd][se][sf][sg][sh][si][sj][sk][sl][sm][sn][so][sp][sq][sr][ss][st][su][sv][sw][sx][sy][sz][ta][tb][tc][td][te][tf][tg][th][ti][tj][tk][tl][tm][tn][to][tp][tq][tr][ts][tt][tu][tv][tw][tx][ty][tz][ua][ub][uc][ud][ue][uf][ug][uh][ui][uj][uk][ul][um][un][uo][up][uq][ur][us][ut][uu][uv][uw][ux][uy][uz][va][vb][vc][vd][ve][vf][vg][vh][vi][vj][vk][vl][vm][vn][vo][vp][vq][vr][vs][vt][vu][vv][vw][wx][wy][wz][xa][zb][zc][zd][ze][zf][zg][zh][zi][zj][zk][zl][zm][zn][zo][zp][zq][zr][zs][zt][zu][zv][zw][zx][zy][zz]</sup>

During this era, Cameron became known worldwide as the first chairman of the [World Psychiatric Association](#) as well as president of both the [American Psychiatric Association](#) and the [Canadian Psychiatric Association](#). Cameron was also a member of the [Nuremberg medical tribunal](#) in 1946–1947.<sup>[a][b][c][d][e][f][g][h][i][j][k][l][m][n][o][p][q][r][s][t][u][v][w][x][y][z][aa][ab][ac][ad][ae][af][ag][ah][ai][aj][ak][al][am][an][ao][ap][aq][ar][as][at][au][av][aw][ax][ay][az][ba][bb][bc][bd][be][bf][bg][bh][bi][bj][bk][bl][bm][bn][bo][bp][bq][br][bs][bt][bu][bv][bw][bx][by][bz][ca][cb][cc][cd][ce][cf][cg][ch][ci][cj][ck][cl][cm][cn][co][cp][cq][cr][cs][ct][cu][cv][cw][cx][cy][cz][da][db][dc][dd][de][df][dg][dh][di][dj][dk][dl][dm][dn][do][dp][dq][dr][ds][dt][du][dv][dw][dx][dy][dz][ea][eb][ec][ed][ee][ef][eg][eh][ei][ej][ek][el][em][en][eo][ep][eq][er][es][et][eu][ev][ew][ex][ey][ez][fa][fb][fc][fd][fe][ff][fg][fh][fi][fj][fk][fl][fm][fn][fo][fp][fq][fr][fs][ft][fu][fv][fw][fx][fy][fz][ga][gb][gc][gd][ge][gf][gg][gh][gi][gj][gk][gl][gm][gn][go][gp][gq][gr][gs][gt][gu][gv][gw][gx][gy][gz][ha][hb][hc][hd][he][hf][hg][hh][hi][hj][hk][hl][hm][hn][ho][hp][hq][hr][hs][ht][hu][hv][hw][hx][hy][hz][ia][ib][ic][id][ie][if][ig][ih][ii][ij][ik][il][im][in][io][ip][iq][ir][is][it][iu][iv][iw][ix][iy][iz][ja][jb][jc][jd][je][jf][jg][jh][ji][jj][jk][jl][jm][jn][jo][jp][jq][jr][js][jt][ju][jv][jw][jx][jy][jz][ka][kb][kc][kd][ke][kf][kg][kh][ki][kj][kk][kl][km][kn][ko][kp][kq][kr][ks][kt][ku][kv][kw][kx][ky][kz][la][lb][lc][ld][le][lf][lg][lh][li][lj][lk][ll][lm][ln][lo][lp][lq][lr][ls][lt][lu][lv][lw][lx][ly][lz][ma][mb][mc][md][me][mf][mg][mh][mi][mj][mk][ml][mm][mn][mo][mp][mq][mr][ms][mt][mu][mv][mw][mx][my][mz][na][nb][nc][nd][ne][nf][ng][nh][ni][nj][nk][nl][nm][no][np][nq][nr][ns][nt][nu][nv][nw][nx][ny][nz][oa][ob][oc][od][oe][of][og][oh][oi][oj][ok][ol][om][on][oo][op][oq][or][os][ot][ou][ov][ow][ox][oy][oz][pa][pb][pc][pd][pe][pf][pg][ph][pi][pj][pk][pl][pm][pn][po][pp][pq][pr][ps][pt][pu][pv][pw][px][py][pz][qa][qb][qc][qd][qe][qf][qg][qh][qi][qj][qk][ql][qm][qn][qo][qp][qq][qr][qs][qt][qu][qv][qw][qx][qy][qz][ra][rb][rc][rd][re][rf][rg][rh][ri][rj][rk][rl][rm][rn][ro][rp][rq][rr][rs][rt][ru][rv][rw][rx][ry][rz][sa][sb][sc][sd][se][sf][sg][sh][si][sj][sk][sl][sm][sn][so][sp][sq][sr][ss][st][su][sv][sw][sx][sy][sz][ta][tb][tc][td][te][tf][tg][th][ti][tj][tk][tl][tm][tn][to][tp][tq][tr][ts][tt][tu][tv][tw][tx][ty][tz][ua][ub][uc][ud][ue][uf][ug][uh][ui][uj][uk][ul][um][un][uo][up][uq][ur][us][ut][uu][uv][uw][ux][uy][uz][va][vb][vc][vd][ve][vf][vg][vh][vi][vj][vk][vl][vm][vn][vo][vp][vq][vr][vs][vt][vu][vv][vw][wx][wy][wz][xa][zb][zc][zd][ze][zf][zg][zh][zi][zj][zk][zl][zm][zn][zo][zp][zq][zr][zs][zt][zu][zv][zw][zx][zy][zz]</sup>

**Motivation and assessments**<sup>[edit]</sup>  
His work was inspired and paralleled by the British psychiatrist [William Sargant](#) at [St Thomas' Hospital](#), London, and [Belmont Hospital, Sutton](#), who was also involved in the [Secret Intelligence Service](#) and who experimented on his patients without their consent, causing similar long-term damage.<sup>[a]</sup>  
In the 1980s, several of Cameron's former patients sued the CIA for damages, which the Canadian news program [The Fifth Estate](#) documented.<sup>[a]</sup> Their experiences and lawsuit was made into a 1998 television miniseries called [The Sleep Room](#).<sup>[a]</sup>

[Naomi Klein](#) argues in her book [The Shock Doctrine](#) that Cameron's research and his contribution to the MKUltra project was not about mind control and brainwashing, but about designing "a scientifically based system for extracting information from 'resistant sources'. In other words, torture."<sup>[a]</sup>  
[Alfred W. McCoy](#) writes, "Stripped of its bizarre excesses, Dr. Cameron's experiments, building upon [Donald O. Hebb](#)'s earlier breakthrough, laid the scientific foundation for the CIA's two-stage psychological torture method",<sup>[a]</sup> referring to first creating a state of [disorientation](#) in the subject, and then creating a situation of "self-inflicted" discomfort in which the disoriented subject can alleviate their pain by capitulating.<sup>[a]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_MKUltra#LSD](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra#LSD)>

### MK Ultra

During the Cold War, the CIA funded a series of secret brainwashing experiments at a prestigious psychiatric clinic at McGill University.

No method was too bizarre, including using LSD, hypnosis, prolonged periods of induced sleep, and electrical shocks to the brain. Patients were given the treatment without explanation or consent, and even decades later complained that they had never completely recovered.

In 1980, the fifth estate exposed the magnitude of the human tragedy with this episode in which two Canadians told their stories publicly for the first time.

Bob Logie was admitted to Allen Memorial hospital at age 18 to treat psychosomatic leg pain. He was repeatedly given LSD as a test subject without his consent.

Logie also received an experimental therapy called depatterning. He was exposed to massive doses of electroshock therapy and kept asleep for up to a month at a time. Tape messages were played repeatedly while he slept.

"I feel like I've been completely used. I feel like my mind has been completely invaded. I suppose if guinea pigs have feelings they'd feel like I do," Logie told the fifth estate host Adrienne Clarkson.

Logie said the effect of the treatments stayed with him and that as a result anxiety built up and he couldn't hold down a job for long.

No one knows how many patients were exposed to the program of chemical and electro-shock treatments at Allen Memorial. But documents and testimony have revealed that the Montreal experiments were part of a series of psychological projects given code names such as MK Ultra and run by the CIA in a quest to understand how to brainwash people.

The American spy agency launched the experiments after the Korean War, when soldiers came home criticizing the American way of life. The CIA was convinced that the Communists had found the key to brainwashing and set out on an elaborate but secret attempt to use any chemical or psychological means to discover how to work with it.

The CIA set up a number of fronts that were run by its brainwashing experts. In Canada, that included the Human Ecology Fund, which paid for the research conducted at McGill University.

Between 1957 and 1961, the CIA funneled about \$62 thousand dollars for its brainwashing experiments to Dr. Ewen Cameron, the director of the Allen Memorial hospital. It's possible that Cameron didn't know where the funding for his research came from.

Many years passed before there was any public or official acknowledgment of what patients at Allen Memorial had been through. the fifth estate followed the story for until 1998, when the CIA agreed to pay some of the patients an out of court settlement of \$750 thousand. The case had been in court for several years.

It emerged that during that time Ottawa helped suppress evidence that CIA officials had apologized to the Canadian government when the CIA experiments were first revealed — evidence that legal experts said would have gone a long way toward settling the case quickly.

In 1992, the Canadian government agreed to compensate some of Cameron's victims \$100 thousand each. In exchange, the victims signed away the right to sue the government or the hospital.

From <<https://www.cbc.ca/fifth/episodes/40-years-of-the-fifth-estate/mk-ultra>>

## Trudeau government gag order in CIA brainwashing case silences victims, lawyer says



Jean Steel was a victim of Dr. Ewen Cameron's CIA-funded brainwashing experiments at Montreal's Allan Memorial Institute. (Alison Steel)

Forty years after revelations that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency funded brainwashing experiments on unsuspecting Canadians, the Trudeau government is continuing a pattern of silencing the victims, a lawyer for one of the families says.

A recent Department of Justice gag order in an out-of-court settlement was designed to avoid responsibility and avert compensation to more victims and their families, said Alan Stein, who has represented numerous survivors who were once patients at the Allan Memorial Institute in Montreal.

Stein told CBC News that successive federal governments have demanded confidentiality agreements in at least five of the cases he has settled in the last few decades.

"If they hadn't been confidential and the settlements had the publicity that they should have had, a lot of the victims would have come forward and gone to court," he said.

The Trudeau government's quiet non-disclosure payment in March 2017 to the daughter of a now-deceased victim is just the latest development in a decades-old scandal that saw both the CIA and the Canadian government fund brutal science experiments on unsuspecting patients.

"They don't want to have to deal with more applications," Stein said of the government's requirement the settlement details be kept confidential and out of the public eye.

Stein's client, Alison Steel, daughter of victim Jean Steel, also believes the confidentiality clause imposed by the Department of Justice limited the possibility that future victims might come forward.



Alison Steel's mother was one of the hundreds of human guinea pigs in Cameron's extreme experiments. (CBC)  
 "Why else would they do it?" she said. "It made me nervous ... to even talk to any media."

Revelations of mental torture on hundreds of Canadian patients first surfaced in the late 1970s and were later the subject of four *Fifth Estate* documentaries exposing the role of the CIA and the federal government in funding brainwashing experiments during the Cold War.

At the centre of the controversy was Dr. Ewen Cameron, a respected psychiatrist and first director of the Allan Memorial Institute, the psychiatric facility at McGill University where the brainwashing experiments took place from 1950 to 1965.

Cameron, who was also co-founder of the World Psychiatric Association, ran experiments called "psychic driving" and "depatterning" that attempted to erase a patient's memories and reprogram them with new thoughts.

The federal government provided Cameron with more than \$500,000 between 1950 and 1965 — \$4 million in today's dollars — along with a smaller amount of funding from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, using a front organization called the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology.

To this day, neither the CIA nor the Canadian government has apologized for its role in the experiments.

"The Government of Canada should recognize its legal responsibility, which it has never done," Stein told *The Fifth Estate*'s Bob McKeown.



Alan Stein has represented numerous survivors who were once patients at the Allan Memorial Institute in Montreal in lawsuits against the Canadian government. (CBC)  
 It was only after CBC News investigative journalist Elizabeth Thompson discovered a clue about the settlement this fall that the name of Stein's client was eventually revealed.

Federal Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould declined a request for an interview after a spokesperson cited scheduling issues and concerns about the "non-disclosure clauses" imposed by the Justice Department.

While Stein cannot talk about details behind the settlement for Steel, it comes years after numerous attempts by Steel's father to obtain compensation for his wife Jean's needless suffering.

Back in the 1990s, the federal government rejected his claim, citing lack of proof that Jean Steel had been damaged enough to reach a "childlike state" — a condition of a federal government payment plan.

It was only recently that Alison Steel received medical records for her mother through an access to information request to the Department of Justice that provided detailed proof she could use to make a claim.

### **Federal government stymied class action lawsuit**

The records show that Steel's mother was one of the hundreds of human guinea pigs in Cameron's extreme experiments.

In February 1957, Jean Steel arrived at the Allan Memorial Institute with a severe case of postpartum depression. She was in and out of the psychiatric hospital over more than three years.

Steel and the patients were given LSD and other experimental drugs, subjected to intensive shock treatments and put into drug-induced comas where they slept for weeks at a time.

They were forced to listen to looped recorded messages for hours on end and even while they slept.

Alison Steel said her father told her that "one time when he tried to take [Jean] back, she tried jumping out of the car. That's how bad she didn't want to go."



Dr. Ewen Cameron was a respected psychiatrist and first director of the Allan Memorial Institute, the psychiatric facility at McGill University where the brainwashing experiments took place from 1950 to 1965. (CBC) None of the patients provided consent or knew that they were being used for Cameron's CIA and federally funded research. Instead, they were wrongly told their treatments were medically necessary and for their own well-being.

In the early 1990s, the federal government provided compensation to 77 victims but turned down more than 250 because they weren't tortured enough, applied too late or because they couldn't produce medical records.

Stein has represented individual survivors since then, in some cases successfully arguing against the government's initial rejection of claims.

One successful case involving survivor Janine Huard in 2004 came with a tough pill to swallow — in order to settle her own lawsuit, Stein was forced to drop a class action lawsuit.

Huard was among the nine victims to receive compensation from the CIA in 1988, but she was rejected in an application to the Canadian government. She hired Stein to fight for a review of that decision and had also wanted to be authorized to institute a class action in her name.

### Children of survivors affected

Stein said the federal government is well aware most of the victims and their families do not have the resources to launch individual lawsuits against the government for the mental torture their families endured.

"The government has deep pockets, these individuals do not have deep pockets," Stein said.

Diane McIntosh's mother, Helene, spent two years in and out of the Allan. She suffered from postpartum depression after the birth of her second child and was generally depressed because her marriage wasn't working out.

"I think it's unbelievable that they would give themselves the right to affect somebody's life in that way," said McIntosh, who now lives in British Columbia.

"They must have known that those extreme experiments would have lasting effects. They didn't just change four years of her life, they changed her whole life."



### MK Ultra

7 years ago

21:20

Our 1980 report on a secret CIA research project, carried out in Montreal by Dr. Ewen Cameron, in which mental patients felt they were used as CIA Guinea Pigs. The CIA was interested in Dr. Cameron's work on psychic driving because it could give them an idea of where the personality could break, or be stressed? Hosted by Adrienne Clarkson 21:20

McIntosh also wonders why the government hasn't compensated all those affected — including the young children whose parents were never the same after being subjected to the brainwashing experiments.

"I think a really good case could be made. It just doesn't make sense that you can take a mother away from her children and ruin her life and other people won't be affected, too."

McIntosh said she will never forget the day when, as a five-year-old, she went to visit her mother in hospital.

"When we got there the place was just like a scene from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*," she said. "There were people banging their heads on the walls and droning, and my mother was sitting there completely drugged up. And even as a child I knew that she wasn't right."

From <<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canadian-government-gag-order-mk-ultra-1.4448933>>



# Project Bluebird/Artichoke

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:56 PM

**Project ARTICHOKE** (also referred to as **Operation ARTICHOKE**) was a [Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA) project that researched [interrogation](#) methods. Preceded by Project BLUEBIRD, ARTICHOKE officially arose on August 20, 1951 and was operated by the CIA's [Office of Scientific Intelligence](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The primary goal of Project ARTICHOKE was to determine whether a person could be involuntarily made to perform an act of attempted assassination.<sup>[2]</sup> The project also studied [hypnosis](#), forced [morphine addiction](#) (and subsequent forced [withdrawal](#)) and the use of other chemicals including [LSD](#), to produce [amnesia](#) and other vulnerable states in subjects. Project ARTICHOKE led to [Project MKUltra](#), which began in 1953.<sup>[3]</sup>

## The project

ARTICHOKE was a [mind control](#) program that gathered information together with the intelligence divisions of the [Army](#), [Navy](#), [Air Force](#) and [FBI](#). In addition, the scope of the project was outlined in a memo dated January 1952 that asked, "Can we get control of an individual to the point where he will do our bidding against his will and even against fundamental laws of nature, such as self-preservation?"<sup>[4][5][6][7][8]</sup>

Project ARTICHOKE was the Central Intelligence Agency's secret code name for carrying out in-house and overseas experiments using LSD, hypnosis and total isolation as forms of physiological harassment for special interrogations on human subjects.<sup>[9]</sup> At first agents used cocaine, marijuana, heroin, peyote and mescaline, but they increasingly saw LSD as the most promising drug.<sup>[10]</sup> The subjects who left this project were fogged with amnesia, resulting in faulty and vague memories of the experience.<sup>[9]</sup> In 1952, LSD was increasingly given to unknowing CIA agents to determine the drug's effects on unsuspecting people. One record states that an agent was kept on LSD for 77 days.<sup>[10]</sup>

ARTICHOKE researched the potential of [dengue fever](#) and other diseases. A declassified ARTICHOKE memo read: "Not all viruses have to be lethal... the objective includes those that act as short-term and long-term [incapacitating agents](#)."<sup>[11]</sup>

The CIA disputed which department would take over the operation. Finally, it was decided that an agent from the CIA research staff, former U.S. Army brigadier general Paul F. Gaynor, would oversee it.<sup>[12]</sup> The CIA sought to establish control over what it perceived as the "weaker" and "less intelligent" segments of society,<sup>[12]</sup> or for potential agents, defectors, refugees, POWs and others.<sup>[13]</sup> A CIA report states that if hypnosis succeeded, assassins could be created to assassinate "a prominent [redacted] politician or if necessary, [an] American official."<sup>[14]</sup> The overseas operations took place in locations throughout Europe, Japan, Southeast Asia and the Philippines.<sup>[12]</sup> Teams were assembled to manage these operations and they were told to "conduct at the overseas bases operational experiments utilizing aliens as subjects."<sup>[13]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_ARTICHOKE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_ARTICHOKE)>

## Deaths

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 5:59 PM

### The Death of Frank Olson

Frank Olson was a scientist who worked for the CIA. At a 1953 CIA retreat, Olson drank a cocktail that had been secretly spiked with LSD.

A few days later, on November 28, 1953, Olson tumbled to his death from the window of a New York City hotel room in an alleged suicide.

The family of Frank Olson decided to have a second autopsy performed in 1994. A forensics team found injuries on the body that had likely occurred before the fall. The findings sparked conspiracy theories that Olson might have been assassinated by the CIA.

After prolonged legal proceedings, Olson's family was awarded a settlement of \$750,000, and received a personal apology from President [Gerald Ford](#) and then-CIA Director William Colby.

From <<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>>

## MURDER AND COVER-UP

Killed in 1953, Frank Olson's family wouldn't know the secret cause of his death for 22 years. Apparently falling from the 13th floor of a hotel in New York City, newspapers said he committed suicide from stress at his job with the Army.

The truth was Olson had been working for the CIA and was the casualty of a security risk test. Working on anthrax aerosols, they decided to drug him with LSD, and see if he would yield classified secrets. After the bout, he became confused, seeking help from less than scientific means. After facing a litany of "treatment" including hypnosis and alcohol he was found dead days later. According to the Washington Post, a scrap of paper was found in his pocket with the initials "G. W." and the address of George White's New York safe house.



**Frank Olson**

It wasn't until his body was exhumed in 1994 that forensics experts confirmed he had been struck on the head before being thrown from the window.

From <<https://www.ripleys.com/weird-news/project-mkultra/>>

# Participants

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 6:00 PM

## Ken Kesey and Other MK-Ultra Participants

Ken Kesey, author of the 1962 novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, volunteered for MK-Ultra experiments with LSD while he was a college student at Stanford University.

Kesey later went on to promote the drug, hosting LSD-fueled parties that he called "Acid Tests."

Acid Tests combined drug use with musical performances by bands including the Grateful Dead and psychedelic effects such as fluorescent paint and black lights. These parties influenced the early development of hippie culture and kick-started the 1960s psychedelic drug scene.

Other notable people who reportedly volunteered for CIA-backed experiments with LSD include Robert Hunter, the Grateful Dead lyricist; [Ted Kaczynski](#), better known as the "Unabomber"; and [James Joseph "Whitey" Bulger](#), the notorious Boston mobster.

From <<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>>

## Church Committee

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## Church Committee

In 1974, New York Times journalist Seymour Hersh published a story about how the CIA had conducted non-consensual drug experiments and illegal spying operations on U.S. citizens. His report started the lengthy process of bringing long-suppressed details about MK-Ultra to light.

The following year, President Ford—in the wake of the Watergate scandal and amid growing distrust of the U.S. government—set up the United States President's Commission on CIA Activities within the United States to investigate illegal CIA activities, including Project MK-Ultra and other experiments on unsuspecting citizens.

The Commission was led by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and is commonly referred to as the Rockefeller Commission.

The Church Committee—helmed by [Idaho](#) Democratic Senator Frank Church—was a larger investigation into the abuses of the CIA, [FBI](#) and other U.S. intelligence agencies during and after the resignation of President [Richard M. Nixon](#).

The Church Committee delved into plots to assassinate foreign leaders, including Cuban dictator [Fidel Castro](#) and Congolese independence leader Patrice Lumumba. It also uncovered thousands of documents related to MK-Ultra.

These revelations resulted in Ford's 1976 [Executive Order](#) on Intelligence Activities that prohibited "experimentation with drugs on human subjects, except with the informed consent, in writing and witnessed by a disinterested party, of each such human subject."

From <<https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/history-of-mk-ultra>>

Revelation<sup>[edit]</sup>



[Frank Church](#) headed the Church Committee, an investigation into the practices of the U.S. intelligence agencies.

In 1973, amid a government-wide panic caused by [Watergate](#), CIA Director [Richard Helms](#) ordered all MKUltra files destroyed.<sup>[a]</sup> Pursuant to this order, most CIA documents regarding the project were destroyed, making a full investigation of MKUltra impossible. A cache of some 20,000 documents survived Helms's purge, as they had been incorrectly stored in a financial records building and were discovered following a [FOIA](#) request in 1977. These documents were fully investigated during the Senate Hearings of 1977.<sup>[a]</sup>

In December 1974, *The New York Times* alleged that the CIA had conducted illegal domestic activities, including experiments on U.S. citizens, during the 1960s.<sup>[a]</sup> That report prompted investigations by the [United States Congress](#), in the form of the [Church Committee](#), and by a commission known as the [Rockefeller Commission](#) that looked into the illegal domestic activities of the CIA, the [FBI](#) and intelligence-related agencies of the military.

In the summer of 1975, congressional Church Committee reports and the presidential [Rockefeller Commission](#) report revealed to the public for the first time that the CIA and the [Department of Defense](#) had conducted experiments on both unwitting and cognizant human subjects as part of an extensive program to find out how to influence and control human behavior through the use of [psychoactive drugs](#) such as LSD and [mescaline](#) and other chemical, biological, and psychological means. They also revealed that at least one subject, [Frank Olson](#), had died after administration of LSD. Much of what the Church Committee and the Rockefeller Commission learned about MKUltra was contained in a report, prepared by the Inspector General's office in 1963, that had survived the destruction of records ordered in 1973.<sup>[a]</sup> However, it contained little detail. Sidney Gottlieb, who had retired from the CIA two years previously and had headed MKUltra, was interviewed by the committee but claimed to have very little recollection of the activities of MKUltra.<sup>[a]</sup>

The congressional committee investigating the CIA research, chaired by Senator [Frank Church](#), concluded that "prior consent was obviously not obtained from any of the subjects". The committee noted that the "experiments sponsored by these researchers ... call into question the decision by the agencies not to fix guidelines for experiments."

Following the recommendations of the Church Committee, President [Gerald Ford](#) in 1976 issued the first Executive Order on Intelligence Activities which, among other things, prohibited "experimentation with drugs on human subjects, except with the informed consent, in writing and witnessed by a disinterested party, of each such human subject" and in accordance with the guidelines issued by the National Commission. Subsequent orders by Presidents [Carter](#) and [Reagan](#) expanded the directive to apply to any human experimentation.



1977 United States Senate report on MKUltra

In 1977, during a hearing held by the [Senate Select Committee on Intelligence](#), to look further into MKUltra, Admiral [Stansfield Turner](#), then Director of Central Intelligence, revealed that the CIA had found a set of records, consisting of about 20,000 pages,<sup>[a]</sup> that had survived the 1973 destruction orders because they had been incorrectly stored at a records center not usually used for such documents.<sup>[a]</sup> These files dealt with the financing of MKUltra projects and contained few project details, but much more was learned from them than from the Inspector General's 1963 report.

On the Senate floor in 1977, Senator [Ted Kennedy](#) said:

The Deputy Director of the CIA revealed that over thirty universities and institutions were involved in an "extensive testing and experimentation" program which included covert drug tests on unwitting citizens "at all social levels, high and low, native Americans and foreign." Several of these tests involved the administration of [LSD](#) to "unwitting subjects in social situations."<sup>[This quote needs a citation]</sup>

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project\\_MKUltra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra)>

## Executive order 11905

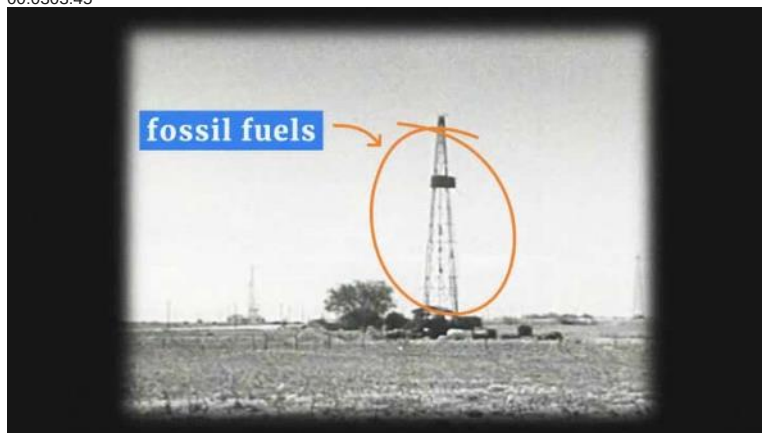
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**Executive Order 11905**, [executive order](#) issued February 19, 1976, by U.S. President [Gerald Ford](#), which prohibited any member of the U.S. government from engaging or conspiring to engage in any political [assassination](#) anywhere in the world. [Promulgated](#) in the wake of revelations that the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) (CIA) had attempted to assassinate Cuban leader [Fidel Castro](#) in the 1960s, it was the first executive order to ban assassinations. It was successively superseded by Executive Order 12036 (issued by President [Jimmy Carter](#) on January 26, 1978) and Executive Order 12333 (issued by President [Ronald Reagan](#) on December 4, 1981), both of which affirmed the ban in the same language, which differed only slightly from that of Ford's order.

Because none of the three orders defined the term *assassination*, the scope of the prohibition has been variously interpreted, some interpretations implying that it is operative only during peacetime. That reading was supported by Ford's Special Message to the Congress, which accompanied his executive order, in which he stated that he would "support legislation making it a crime to assassinate or attempt or conspire to assassinate a foreign official in peacetime." It is worth noting that only Ford's order referred to "political assassination," whereas Carter's and Reagan's used the term *assassination* only. It is unclear whether that change in language indicated any change in the scope of the ban.

The ban apparently did not prevent the Reagan administration from bombing the residence of Libyan leader [Muammar al-Qaddafi](#) in April 1986 in retaliation for a bombing attack at a Berlin discotheque earlier that month. Nor was it deemed inconsistent with President [Bill Clinton](#)'s [cruise missile](#) attack on training camps operated in Afghanistan by the Islamist terrorist network [al-Qaeda](#) following the bombings of two U.S. embassies in [eastern Africa](#). Clinton also authorized the covert use of lethal force against al-Qaeda's leader, [Osama bin Laden](#), and other high-ranking members of al-Qaeda.

00:0303:45



Three days after militants associated with al-Qaeda carried out the [September 11 attacks](#) in the [United States](#) in 2001, Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing President [George W. Bush](#) to "use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks." Although there was no explicit reference to the assassination ban, the joint resolution was arguably broad enough to authorize actions that otherwise would be prohibited under the executive orders banning assassination. Bush later broadened the scope of Clinton's authorization of covert lethal force, permitting the CIA and U.S. special forces to kill anyone on a secret "high-value target list" without his express approval. Such targeted killings were carried out by military [unmanned aerial vehicles](#) (drones) and other means against leaders of the [Taliban](#) insurgency in Afghanistan following the U.S.-British invasion of that country in 2001 and against suspected leaders of al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other countries. From 2009 President [Barack Obama](#) greatly expanded the targeted killing program. In May 2011 bin Laden died in an apparent targeted killing by U.S. forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

From <<https://www.britannica.com/event/Executive-Order-11905>>

(d) *Restrictions on Experimentation.* Foreign intelligence agencies shall not engage in experimentation with drugs on human subjects, except with the informed consent, in writing and witnessed by a disinterested third party, of each such human subject and in accordance with the guidelines issued by the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects for Biomedical and Behavioral Research.

From <<https://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/speeches/760110e.asp#CIA>>



# Executive order 12333

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 6:33 PM

**Executive Order 12333**, signed on December 4, 1981 by U.S. President [Ronald Reagan](#), was an [Executive Order](#) intended to extend powers and responsibilities of [U.S. intelligence agencies](#) and direct the leaders of U.S. federal agencies to co-operate fully with [CIA](#) requests for information.<sup>[a]</sup> This executive order was titled *United States Intelligence Activities*. It was amended by [Executive Order 13355](#): Strengthened Management of the Intelligence Community, on August 27, 2004. On July 30, 2008, [President George W. Bush](#) issued [Executive Order 13470](#)<sup>[a]</sup> amending Executive Order 12333 to strengthen the role of the [Director of National Intelligence](#) (DNI).<sup>[a][b]</sup>

## Contents

### Part 1<sup>[edit]</sup>

"Goals, Direction, Duties and Responsibilities with Respect to the National Intelligence Effort" lays out roles for various intelligence agencies, including the Departments of Defense, Energy, State, and Treasury.

### Part 2<sup>[edit]</sup>

"Conduct of Intelligence Activities" provides guidelines for actions of intelligence agencies.

### Collection of Information<sup>[edit]</sup>

Part 2.3 permits collection, retention and dissemination of the following types of information along with several others.

(c) Information obtained in the course of lawful foreign intelligence, counterintelligence, international narcotics or international terrorism investigation

...

(i) Incidentally obtained information that may indicate involvement in activities that may violate federal, state, local or foreign laws<sup>[a]</sup>

### Proscription on assassination<sup>[edit]</sup>

Part 2.11 of this executive order reiterates a proscription on US intelligence agencies sponsoring or carrying out an assassination. It reads:<sup>[a]</sup>

No person employed by or acting on behalf of the United States Government shall engage in, or conspire to engage in, assassination.

Previously, [EO 11905](#) (Gerald Ford) had banned political assassinations and [EO 12036](#) (Jimmy Carter) had further banned indirect U.S. involvement in assassinations.<sup>[a]</sup> As early as 1998, this proscription against assassination was reinterpreted, and relaxed, for targets who are classified by the United States as connected to terrorism.<sup>[a][b]</sup>

### Impact<sup>[edit]</sup>

Executive Order 12333 has been regarded by the American intelligence community as a fundamental document authorizing the expansion of data collection activities.<sup>[a]</sup> The document has been employed by the [National Security Agency](#) as legal authorization for its collection of unencrypted information flowing through the [data centers](#) of internet communications giants [Google](#) and [Yahoo!](#).<sup>[a]</sup>

In July 2014 chairman David Medine and two other members of the [Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board](#), a government oversight agency, indicated a desire to review Executive Order 12333 in the near future, according to a report by journalist Spencer Ackerman of *The Guardian*.<sup>[a]</sup>

In July 2014, former State Department official [John Tye](#) published an editorial in *The Washington Post*, citing his prior access to classified material on intelligence-gathering activities under Executive Order 12333, and arguing that the order represented a significant threat to Americans' privacy and civil liberties.<sup>[a][b]</sup>

In April, 2021, the [Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board](#) published the results of its six-year review of EO 12333.

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive\\_Order\\_12333](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_12333)

2.10*Human Experimentation.* No agency within the Intelligence Community shall sponsor, contract for or conduct research on human subjects except in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services. The subject's informed consent shall be documented as required by those guidelines.

From <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/12333.html#2.10>