



by Darren Watts

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

--John 8:32, inscribed above the entrance to the CIA's headquarters in Langley, Virginia.

Introduction

Any modern-day campaign, no matter the genre, may at some point have to deal with the Central Intelligence Agency, if for no other reason than the massive influence it has had on international relations in the last century. This, of course, goes double for a campaign involving politics, espionage and Really Big Secrets. The CIA's checkered history makes them the bugbear of choice for conspiracy theorists of countless stripes. Obviously, an organization so secretive and pervading makes an outstanding fictional villain, but the reality, as always, remains a bit more complicated. This article is an attempt to sort out the facts on hand about the CIA, and clear up some common errors and misperceptions about the "Clandestine Service." Inside you will find a fairly detailed timeline illuminating some of the high (and low) points of the Agency's history, an explanation of their internal structure and the various Directorates, information on designing and roleplaying CIA characters, and a list of references for further reading.

This essay tries to view the CIA through as mundane a lens as possible -- in other words, only the historical events accepted as fact by the most sober-minded of observers are treated as gospel, and any other speculation about the role of the CIA in the "Secret History" of the world is presented as only that, speculation. Whatever role the CIA may play in your own universe in political assassinations, manipulation of the world's financial markets, or suppression of That Which The World Is Not Ready To Know, remains for the individual GM to fill in. As always, fnoord.

Timeline

1941 President Roosevelt appoints General William "Wild Bill" Donovan as Director of the Office of the Coordinator of Information., the US's first modern foreign intelligence

agency. In 1942, the agency is renamed the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the predecessor of the CIA.

- 1945** Truman disbands the OSS on September 20th after the end of World War II.
- 1946** Truman changes his mind about the need for an intelligence coordinator as Cold War tensions increase. He forms the Central Intelligence Group, headed first by Admiral Sidney W. Souers, then by Lt. General Hoyt S. Vandenburg.
- 1947** On July 26, Truman establishes the Central Intelligence Agency. The first Director is Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoeter. (Sometimes Souers and Vandenburg are included on lists of former directors, which may throw off your count depending on the source you're using. This article stays with the convention of only counting the directors after the name change.)
- 1948** In perhaps the first effective use of covert action by the CIA, millions of dollars are secretly provided to the Christian Democratic Party in Italy to assist them in defeating the Communists in the general election. (The CDP party is traditionally the party favored by the Mafia, and the supposed historical connection between them and the CIA is traced back to this activity.)
- 1950** Walter Bedell Smith appointed second Director.

The CIA assists Philippine president Ramon Magsaysay in putting down the Communist "Huk" rebellion.

- 1953** Allen W. Dulles appointed third Director.

In Iran, a CIA operation led by Kermit Roosevelt supported the forces of the Shah, Reza Pahlavi, in retaking control of the government after Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadeq attempted to nationalize the Iranian oil industry. The Shah would remain linked in his country's eyes with the US government, eventually leading to the student uprisings of the late 1970s.

MK-Ultra testing begins. The CIA tries to determine if LSD has any potential for use in covert operations by testing it on unwitting subjects, including military officers and prisoners. One recipient of a massive dose of LSD, Army scientist Frank Olson, commits suicide by jumping out of a window while tripping. The MK-Ultra paperwork would be mostly destroyed on the orders of Richard Helms in 1972, but limited documentation would still be uncovered by the Church Committee. It is believed by many that at the same time the CIA was experimenting with hallucinogens, they were also investigating other strange phenomena, such as psychic powers. It is certainly a matter of record that individuals within the CIA had strong interest in the subject; however, evidence that anything came from this research remains thin and largely unconvincing. It is, however, interesting speculation.

- 1954** The CIA strikes another blow for big business by assisting in the overthrow of Guatemalan president Jacobo Arbenz after he attempts to nationalize property owned by the United Fruit Co. Eisenhower sees this as a major victory over the insurgent forces of Communism, and the CIA's reputation for successful covert action after the successes of Iran and Guatemala is heavily inflated within the inner circles of Washington.
- 1959** The US Marines, in Haiti ostensibly to train local soldiers, support dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier in putting down a rebellion. The CIA allegedly takes advantage of his gratitude to get Haitian support in activities against Cuba.

1960 CIA pilot Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane is shot down in Russia, and Powers is taken prisoner, publicly tried and imprisoned. (After seventeen months, he is traded back to the US in exchange for Russian spy Rudolph Abel.) The U-2 program had begun in 1955, using experimental planes for suborbital flyovers while taking films of missile sites and military units. These planes have a cover story of being used by NASA for atmospheric experiments, but the cameras recovered by the Russians from the wreckage give the lie to that story. The U-2 is later replaced by the Blackbird SR-71, and then by satellites.

1961 The new CIA headquarters at Langley, VA is built. See below for more details.

The Bay of Pigs invasion takes place. The CIA has been working on a plan to invade Cuba and unseat Castro since he rose to power in 1959 and overthrew Fulgencio Batista's dictatorship. Despite President Kennedy's misgivings, a force of Cuban exiles and mercenaries is assembled to attack Cuba, with the primary landing site at the Bay of Pigs on the southwestern coast. The invaders are overwhelmed by Cuban forces, at least partly due to a lack of promised air support from US forces, and are either slaughtered or imprisoned. The CIA is heavily criticized for underestimating the capabilities of Castro's army and overestimating the popular support another revolution would have. Kennedy himself also comes under fire for appearing indecisive in the face of the Communist threat.

John A. McCone is appointed fourth Director when Kennedy fires Allen Dulles. Kennedy is reportedly so angry with the CIA after the Bay of Pigs that he says privately he intends to break up the organization.

1962 CIA U-2 overflights reveal that the Soviets are building and arming missile sites in Cuba.

In response, Kennedy places a naval blockade on the island to keep Soviet vessels from delivering more missiles. After months of hovering at the brink of a global nuclear war, Khrushchev agrees to remove the missiles in exchange for promises by the US never to invade Cuba, as well as concessions regarding US missiles in Turkey.

1963 President Kennedy is assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas. The reputed connections between Oswald, the CIA, the Mafia, and anti-Castro Cubans are far too enormous and convoluted to go into here, but a wealth of information of wildly varying quality is easily available. The Warren Commission, a seven-man committee assigned to investigate the assassination, includes Allen Dulles.

1964 The CIA supports the Chilean Christian Democrat Eduardo Frei in his election victory over Marxist Salvador Allende.

1965 William F. Raborn appointed fifth Director.

Indonesian President Sukarno increases his ties to the Communist party and China. The CIA supports Army Chief of Staff Suharto in his taking effective control of the government, and indirectly supports his ensuing bloody purge of communists.

1966 Richard Helms appointed sixth Director.

Leftist magazine Ramparts begins a series of exposes of CIA domestic activity, including the funding of the National Student Association in an attempt to "protect international student groups from being infiltrated by communists." Though perhaps not a direct violation of the CIA's charter, it is the first public awareness that the CIA may be

operating domestically against radical groups.

- 1970** Allende finally elected to office in Chile. True to his word, he promptly nationalizes the copper industry without compensation. The CIA supports a series of military uprisings against Allende, leading eventually to Allende's suicide and the installation of Pinochet.
- 1971** E. Howard Hunt, formerly an officer in the Directorate of Operations, heads up a break-in at the offices of Dr. Lewis Fielding, psychiatrist to Daniel Ellsberg, who was accused of leaking the "Pentagon Papers." Though the CIA was apparently not directly involved in the break-in, Hunt was using CIA-issued false identification and camera. (The details of this operation were revealed in 1973 as part of the Watergate scandal.)
- 1972** Watergate. The break-in at DNC headquarters by members of the President's undercover "plumbers" involves two ex-CIA operatives, Hunt and James McCord, as well as several former Cuban assets. Nixon asks Helms to tell the FBI to stop investigating Watergate so as not to interfere with imaginary CIA activities. Helms refuses and is fired by Nixon on February 2, 1973. His replacement, James R. Schlesinger, also refuses to participate in the coverup. Schlesinger issues a directive to employees of the CIA to report directly to him any suspicions they may have of illegal activities within the Agency. The resulting report becomes known as "the Family Jewels."
- 1973** Schlesinger is replaced as Director by William E. Colby.
- 1974** Investigative reporter Seymour Hersh discovers the existence of the "family jewels" report and writes several exposes in the New York Times. According to the documents, the CIA has been intercepting mail to and from the Soviet Union since the early 1950s, in violation of federal statutes. Hersh also discovers the existence of the CIA Special Operations Group (also known as Operation CHAOS), which kept tabs on "domestic dissidents" and had in their possession files on thousands of Americans. He also exposes the MK-ULTRA project and the death of Frank Olson. The resulting scandal is enormous, and a presidential commission chaired by Nelson Rockefeller is impaneled by President Ford. At the same time, a special Senate subcommittee headed by Senator Frank Church is formed, and the Church Committee spends the next fifteen months investigating the reported abuses by the CIA.
- 1976** The Church Committee releases its final report to the public. Many of the most extreme charges are picked up by the press, including the long and wacky list of proposed plans to assassinate Castro. More damaging are the full revelations of the involvement of the CIA in the various coups and elections listed above, as well as the allegations of domestic spying. The CIA's public image takes a furious beating.

The Senate and House form Select Subcommittees on Intelligence, primarily in an attempt to avoid abuses like those uncovered by the Church Committee.

George H. Bush appointed ninth Director, with a mandate to restore the CIA's morale and facilitate coordination with the Select Subcommittees.

President Ford issues Executive Order 11905, officially forbidding "government officers from participating in attempts to kill foreign leaders."

- 1977** Stansfield Turner is appointed tenth Director.
- 1978** 913 people die in the "Jonestown Massacre" in Guyana. Cult leader Reverend Jim Jones is linked to the CIA by columnist Jack Anderson in 1980.

1980 President Carter passes Intelligence Oversight Act, which formalizes the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) as the formal oversight bodies for the CIA and directing them to receive copies of all intelligence generated by the CIA.

1981 William J. Casey appointed eleventh Director.

President Reagan secretly authorizes the funding and support of Nicaraguan revolutionaries, known as "Contras," against the neo-Marxist Sandanista government.

Reagan's Executive Order 12333 passes, establishing the new rules under which the DCI operates (and reconfirming the directives against carrying out foreign assassinations.)

1984 William Buckley, CIA Station Chief in Beirut, Lebanon, is kidnapped by Shiite terrorists. He dies in captivity in June, 1985.

Congress passes the Boland Amendment, banning US military aid to the Contras in Nicaragua. The National Security Council and William Casey begin searching for a way around this new law.

1985 An Iranian arms dealer who was a CIA asset informs the agency that if the US were to sell arms to Iran for its ongoing war with Iraq, the Iranian government would in return use its influence with Lebanon to get American hostages held there released. This begins the "Iran-Contra" affair, as the proceeds of the already secret deal to sell Iran arms through Israel would eventually be used by Oliver North and Richard Secord to fund the Contras in Nicaragua.

1987 William H. Webster appointed twelfth Director.

The Iran-Contra scandal becomes public, and the sensational trial of Oliver North fascinates the nation. William Casey, who was known to have been a fervent supporter of the Contras and was believed to have been a key player in the conspiracy, inconveniently dies from nervous-system lymphoma before testifying.

1991 Robert M. Gates appointed thirteenth Director.

1993 R. James Woolsey appointed fourteenth Director.

1994 CIA officer Aldrich Ames is caught and exposed as a spy for the Soviets, having provided them with vast amounts of information in exchange for over \$2.7 million. At least 10 CIA agents within the USSR were killed due to information provided by Ames. Ames pleads guilty and is sentenced to life in prison.

1995 John M. Deutch appointed fifteenth Director. He is later dismissed after admitting he has brought home over 17,000 pages of classified information on his home computer, which is also used by his children to surf the Internet. Deutch becomes the first CIA Director to be stripped of his Top-Secret clearance level.

1997 George Tenet becomes sixteenth Director.

1999 An American B-2 drops two bombs on the Chinese embassy in Belgrade during a NATO airstrike. The CIA had selected the target, and at first the bombing was blamed on out-of-date maps that showed a Yugoslav government building on the site. Later evidence, primarily uncovered by the London newspaper The Observer, suggests that the strike may actually have been intentional, designed to send a warning message that the US knew that the Chinese were providing clandestine assistance to the Yugoslavs. The CIA undergoes yet another round of second-guessing in the press.

The Organization

CIA officers have a saying: "Our failures are publicized. Our successes are not." The popularity of this maxim says a great deal about the institutional character of the Agency. Americans have a natural bias against the secretive, and tend to assume anything they're not being told about must be bad. The CIA has probably earned a lot of its bad press, but it is certainly a source of frustration to veteran agents that so little mitigating information about the things they do right can be released.

The organizational ethos of the CIA demands, "Never apologize, never explain." The agency came late to the idea that good public relations could be a benefit, as the work of Hoover marketing the FBI had shown throughout the middle of the century, and the CIA has had an antagonistic relationship with the press throughout most of its existence. When the excesses of programs like Operation CHAOS were revealed in the mid-1970s, the CIA stonewalled vigorously and released information so slowly and haphazardly that it was pretty much guaranteed that the public would assume there was even worse to hide.

The other relevant organizational trait of the CIA is an apparent casual regard for legal process. Obviously, the CIA's primary mandate involves breaking the laws of other countries on a regular basis, in order to perform effective espionage. It would be, perhaps, easy to understand how an institution like that would find it difficult to avoid taking the laws of its own country somewhat lightly.

The CIA is forbidden by mandate from "exercising law enforcement or police powers or undertaking internal security functions." This reflects Truman's postwar fears of a American covert agency like the Nazi intelligence agencies or (later) the KGB. This does not mean, however, that the CIA cannot operate within the United States, as some would claim, but that the target of investigation must always be foreign, no matter where they may operate. The CIA may, for example, bug a foreign embassy on US soil, or investigate a foreign-owned and managed corporation operating in the US. When dealing with US citizens or corporations, by law CIA agents must identify themselves as such. It is generally believed that the CIA has a less-than-stellar record of following this law.

The end of the Cold War left the CIA in an operational quandary. Though few seriously believed the need for an intelligence agency had by any stretch passed, many felt that cutbacks were appropriate. The CIA dug in and resisted cost-cutting and trimming of their bloated payrolls, trying to emphasize their effectiveness in counterterrorism and narcotics interdiction. Unfortunately, neither of these is precisely a strength of the agency, and both are handled with greater effectiveness by other institutions. The CIA remains a favorite target during cost-cutting debates in Congress, though so far it has passed through the "budget wars" with little effect.

The investigations after the Ames spy case in 1994 painted a public picture of the CIA that was even less flattering. The complete inability to catch a spy so obviously living beyond his means and with such incompetent cover led many outside analysts to criticize the agency for excessive bureaucracy, a tendency to phase less competent officers to the counterintelligence services to cover their inadequacies and an excessive concern among middle management with padding their successes by maintaining ineffective assets. The post-Ames Directors of the CIA (especially Tenet) have pledged yet another shake-up of the agency, but so far few are impressed.

Structure and Mission

The Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) has an a breathtakingly complicated job, of which running the CIA is only a part. The DCI is responsible for providing foreign intelligence to the President, his cabinet, and the National Security Council. This intelligence may come from many sources other than the CIA itself; this organization of sources that eventually report to the DCI is known as the "Intelligence Community." The Intelligence Community officially consists of the following organizations: CIA, FBI, National Security Agency (NSA), National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Treasury (DOT), Department of State, and the intelligence branches of the four branches of the military (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines).

It is the DCI's responsibility to coordinate the thirteen organizations above and receive intelligence from each of them, and then present that intelligence to the Executive Branch. In fact, the heads of each of these agencies meet regularly as the National Foreign Intelligence Board (NFIB), chaired by the DCI. It isn't in the scope of this article to explain or define all of the above agencies, but some of them may be dealt with in future pieces.

The DCI is appointed by the president and approved by the Senate. He is assisted by a Deputy Director of the CIA, also a presidential appointee, who also assists in coordinating the Intelligence Community.

The CIA itself is divided into four Directorates, each headed by a Deputy Director (DD), about which there is more below. There are seven other staff offices run by DDs: Public Affairs, Congressional Affairs, Comptroller, Special Assistant for Arms Control (which monitors other countries' compliance with strategic arms control treaties), National Intelligence Council (which produces economic estimates), Intelligence Community Staff, and Planning and Coordination. The General Counsel for the CIA is also equivalent to a DD in rank. Since 1990, the Inspector General of the CIA has technically had equal rank to the Director but remains out of the chain of command, due to his responsibilities for monitoring intelligence activities for legality.

The Directorate of Operations, also known as the Clandestine Service, is what the public thinks of as the "real" CIA, the home of spies and handlers. Officers of the DOO manage agents in countries all over the world (allies as well as enemies), collecting intelligence and performing covert operations. It is estimated that about 4,000 of the 22,000 employees of the CIA work for the DOO. Frequently DOO officers have covers as members of the State Department or a similar government post, since this allows them diplomatic immunity should they be exposed. Other officers have what is known as "commercial cover," or a cover identity as an employee of a private company. This is considered much riskier service.

It is important to differentiate here between officers and agents. In CIA parlance, an agent is a foreign national that has been recruited by the Agency to provide information covertly to the US. The term is never used to describe an actual American employee of the the CIA; in the field these are known as officers. This is probably the single most common error in fictional portrayals of the CIA.

The primary job of DOO officers is to recruit and manage agents, also sometimes called assets, who provide them with intelligence. Usually this involves bribes, though many agents are ideologically motivated. Officers use agents to acquire documents, record conversations, infiltrate buildings and disseminate information that the USA wants spread (either false information to other espionage agencies or propaganda to potential supporters.) DOO officers also oversee and occasionally perpetrate direct actions, such as physically stealing code keys or bugging embassies. The DOO also oversees counterterrorist and counterintelligence activities for

the CIA (the latter function coordinated with the FBI), and provides assistance to the DEA and FBI in combating the international drug trade.

Next is the Directorate of Science and Technology (DS&T). This Directorate develops and distributes high-tech equipment to the agency, and monitors the development of science and technology in the private sector. They co-manage the entire fleet of intelligence satellites, along with the NRO and NIMA, and process the images gathered through the National Photographic Interpretation Center. Most of the US's surveillance satellites are built under the auspices of the DS&T's Office of Development and Engineering. DS&T also runs the SIGINT Operations office, monitoring radio transmissions and telemetry. The Office of Technical Services is famous for turning out state-of-the-art bugging devices disguised as a bewildering array of common household and personal devices, such as pens, lighters and batteries. The DS&T employs approximately 6,000 officers.

The Directorate of Intelligence represents the in-house analysis wing of the CIA, made up of foreign-policy experts, political scientists and military advisers charged with taking in the information gathered by the DOO and presenting the Executive Branch with their predictions and suggestions. There are at least a dozen specialized offices within the DOI, several dedicated to specific areas of the world and others devoted to the study of international trade, weapons research and social sciences. This branch is traditionally the most "open" within the CIA, with its analysts frequently publishing papers and attending symposia, and has a well-known rivalry with the "spooks" of the DOO. With only about 3,000 employees, it is the smallest of the four Directorates.

The last Directorate is Administration. The largest Directorate (9,000 employees), the DOA is responsible for all of the "support services" required by the CIA, including finances, training, security, personnel, logistics and supply. The public communications offices are part of this directorate, as are the management of the Langley HQ (see below) and the remote training sites. The Financial Management office handles the laundering of money through banks and front businesses all over the world. DOA also is responsible for internal security, including background checks on employees and agents, polygraphs and debugging our own offices and embassies.

The CIA's main headquarters is an office complex in McLean, Virginia, called Langley after a smaller village that merged into McLean in the early 1900s. Located on wooded farmland near the Potomac River, it's a relatively small compound consisting primarily of two large office buildings, a domed 7,000-seat auditorium called "The Bubble," and a parking garage and several smaller outlying facilities. The area is fully fenced and patrolled by armed guards and dogs, but presents a low-key profile (and the local bus stops right at the main gate!). The "Old Building," which was the first and for some time the only building on the lot, is the location of the DCI's offices, as well as those of several other officials, the libraries, gym, two barber shops and the CIA's National Historical Collection, a museum of the Agency's history. Most of the "New Building" is given over to office space for the lower-level employees. Behind the New Building can be found the electrical substation, motor pool, helipad, emergency generators and the CIA's own post office. Behind the compound itself, just off the property, is a large commercial farm, where periodic escapes by razorback hogs bred there have frequently livened up the lives of guards along the CIA's perimeter.

The CIA's primary training facility is called Camp Peary, located near Williamsburg, VA on a 10,000-acre former WWII Naval training facility. Officially called the Special Training Center (STC), the CIA still does not officially acknowledge its existence, though it's something of an open secret. The DOO runs what is called the Basic Operations Course (BOC) here, which is

required of all field officers before their first posting, and various advanced training programs like weapons and demolitions training, field surveillance, driving, infiltration and bugging. Agents of other intelligence services train here occasionally, primarily Military intelligence, although it is said that some programs are open to agents of our allies' intelligence services like the British SIS. The STC also serves as an auxiliary meeting/conference center to the sometimes undersized Langley facility.

The other major facility of the CIA is the Harvey Point Defense Testing facility, in Elizabeth City, NC. This location is considerably more secretive than Camp Peary, and little is known of the programs taught inside. It is generally accepted that "The Point" is the training site for the more paramilitary courses taught by the CIA, as opposed to Camp Peary's "sneaky skills." Harvey Point is where courses in high explosives, hostage rescue, sabotage and similar activities are taught. The base is also used for training by Navy SEALs and occasionally the Secret Service.

CIA Officers in GURPS

Unlike the FBI, there is no set package for officers of the CIA. There is simply far too wide a variety of operational backgrounds, and no uniform training programs that all officers take. Instead, a list of suggested skills for officer types is included below.

A typical CIA "case officer," or spy handler living abroad, would have a cover identity established for him by the Agency. As mentioned above, this is frequently as a member of the State Department or ambassadorial staff, in order to take advantage of the protections of diplomatic immunity should the agent be captured or exposed. This is the 10-pt. "Alternate Identity" listed on CI20, along with the 15-pt. "Legal Enforcement Powers" advantage from B21. Please note that CIA officers do not have the authority to arrest anyone or "kill with relative impunity," except when under direct Executive Order from the President to do so. The CIA itself is a 30-pt. Patron, but also attaches a Duty (Almost all the time), and for case officers a 10-point "Secret" as well. This nets to 15 points as an advantage.

Appropriate advantages for a case officer include: Alertness, Charisma (perhaps quite a lot!), Cultural Adaptability, Danger Sense, Empathy, Intuition, Night Vision, and Voice. Popular disadvantages might include: Gregarious, Lecherousness, and Overconfidence. Skills could include Acting, Bugging, Diplomacy, Electronics Operation, History (perhaps specializing in Political History), Intelligence Analysis, Savoir Faire, Sex Appeal, Shadowing, SIGINT Collection, Stealth, several appropriate languages, Area Knowledge (current and former postings) and sufficient professional skills to maintain his cover identity. Most officers are trained at the very least with pistols and some basic self-defense skills as well.

Of course, there are numerous other jobs within the CIA, from paramilitary specialists to hardcore hackers, but these should be easy to generate for anyone familiar with the **GURPS** system.

Further Reading and References

- <http://www.cia.gov> -- The Agency's homepage, with numerous links for historical documents and related sites. Not terribly informative, but an interesting read anyway.
- <http://www.intellit.muskingum.edu> -- An outstanding bibliography, maintained by a professor at Muskingum College in Ohio, featuring publications, books and magazine

articles on government intelligence issues.

- <http://www.CNN.com/SPECIALS/cold.war> -- CNN's documentary series included a number of excellent interviews and retrospectives on the architects of the Cold War, including several of the CIA's top officials of the period.
- <http://www.rrojasdatabank.org/ciahist.html> -- A scathing analysis of the CIA's involvement in third-world countries from the 1940s to the 1980s.
- <http://www.britannica.com>- As always, the greatest straight research site on the web.
- *Inside The CIA* (Ronald Kessler, Pocket Books, 1992) -- Kessler is a bit of an apologist for the CIA in some cases, and the book is now somewhat out-of-date. Nevertheless, he was granted unprecedented access to the day-to-day operation of the Agency, and the book is informative and easy to read.
- *The Big Book of Conspiracies* (Doug Moench and various artists, Paradox Press, 1995) -- Your one-stop shop for illustrated, breezy beginner theories on the weird, the secret, and the mind-blowing. The bibliography covers pretty much all the standard texts in modern Conspiracy Theory. If your campaign involves the Weird CIA, here's a good place to start.

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