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# Mind control, CIA. 1950-1953: Bluebird, Artichoke, MK-ULTRA; 2000s cyberspace

- **1946** “At the Kransberg Castle interrogation centre, clerks began using paperclips to mark the files of prisoners whose backgrounds presented ‘the most troublesome cases.’ From that practice came the code name of the clandestine project by which Nazi scientists were given falsified biographies and brought to work in the United States: Operation Paperclip. President Harry Truman set in motion on September 3, 1946. His secret order, drawn up by intelligence officers and approved by Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson, authorized the issuance of up to a thousand visas for German and Austrian scientists ‘in the interest of national security.’ It specifically forbade cooperation with anyone who had been ‘a member of the Nazi Party and more than nominal participant in its activities, or an active supporter of Nazi militarism.’ [...] Ultimately more than seven hundred scientists, engineers, and other technical specialists who had served the Third Reich came to the United States on Paperclip contracts. [...] With [the help of Operation Paperclip officers] three German scientists who had worked on chemical and biological warfare projects arrived at Camp Detrick less than a year after the war ended. All had been members of the Nazi Party [...] In their lectures, the new arrivals used records from their wartime experiments” (page 21-22 [1]). **1947** “President Truman [...] signed the National Security Act, which created the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA]. That law, written in part by Allen Dulles, a former OSS [Office of Strategic Services, abolished in 1945 (page 31 [1])] officer [...] is loosely worded. It authorizes the CIA to carry out ‘functions and duties related to intelligence affecting national security,’ and to use ‘all appropriate methods’ in that pursuit” (page 32 [1]). **1949** “In the spring of 1949 [commanders of the Chemical Corps] created a secret team at Camp Detrick, the Special Operations Division, whose scientists would conduct research into ways that chemicals could be used as weapons of covert actions” (page 33 [1]).
- **1950 *Bluebird*** “In 1950, Director of Central Intelligence Roscoe Hillenkoetter [...] decreed creation of a new program that would take the CIA’s quest for mind control techniques to its next level. The program was code-named Bluebird, supposedly after someone at a planning meeting described its goal as finding ways to make prisoners “sing like a bird.” One of the first Bluebird memos decreed that experiments be “broad and comprehensive, involving both domestic and overseas activity.” Another noted that the best subjects would be prisoners, including “defectors, refugees, POWs (and) others.” Experiments would be aimed at, according to a third memo, “investigating the possibility of control of an individual by application of Special Interrogation techniques.” Bluebird began amid great enthusiasm” (page 38 [1]). “By the early 1950s [Allen Dulles] had concluded that mind control could be the decisive weapon of the coming age. Any nation that discovered ways to manipulate the human psyche, he believed, could rule the world. He hired **Sidney Gottlieb** to lead the CIA’s search for that grail “ (page 50 [1]). “... [Sidney Gottlieb:] the first person the United States government ever hired to find ways to control human minds” (page 47 [1]). “In two decades at the Central Intelligence Agency, Gottlieb had directed history’s most systematic search for techniques of mind control. He was also the CIA’s chief poison maker” (page 2 [1]). “... **the Nuremberg Code was never incorporated into United States law**. It did not legally bind Bluebird researchers, experimenters, or interrogators as they set out to answer deep and ancient questions. What were those questions? [...] [e.g.] Can we guarantee total amnesia under any and all conditions? Can we ‘alter’ a person’s personality? How long will it hold? [...] Could any of this be done under field conditions and in a very short space of time?” (page 46-47 [1]).
- **1951** Allen Dulles recruited by Director for the CIA General Walter Bedell Smith in 1950: Allen Dulles "...he had become fascinated with the prospect that science could discover ways to manipulate the human psyche" (page 39 [1]). “After six weeks of work at the CIA as a consultant, Dulles officially joined the Agency on January 2, 1951. [...] From the beginning of his CIA career to the end, **Dulles enthusiastically promoted mind control projects of every sort**. He saw them as an indispensable part of the secret war against Communism that he was charged with waging” (page 39 [1]).
- ***Artichoke*** “On August 20, 1951, [Sidney Gottlieb] directed that Bluebird be expanded, intensified, and centralized. He also gave it a new name: Artichoke. “At the end of 1951, about six months after [Sidney Gottlieb] was hired, he asked one of his new associates, Harold Abramson, to guide him through his first [LSD] ‘trip’” (page 60 [1]). “Abrahamson was an LSD pioneer. Using stock he ordered from Sandoz, and later the effectively unlimited supply that Gottlieb and Eli Lilly made available to him, he distributed samples to other doctors and gave it guests at his Long Island home. [...] Most disturbing, he developed a special curiosity **about the impact of mind-altering drugs on children**” (page 100 [1]). “... the physician most intimately tied to MK-ULTRA, Harold Abramson” (page 117 [1]). “Artichoke grew from a conviction that became an article of faith at the CIA: there is a way to control the human mind, and if it can be found the prize will be nothing less than global mastery. [...] Could mescaline, which in the early twentieth century became the first psychoactive drug to be synthesized in a laboratory, be the answer?”(page 59 [1]). “Much of what the CIA called ‘Artichoke work’ qualifies as medical torture” (page 55 [1]). “By early 1952 four teams were active, one each in West Germany, France, Japan, and South Korea. Several more were added later. ‘As a rule,’ according to one memo, ‘individuals subjected to Artichoke techniques will be entirely cooperative, passive, and lethargic’” (page 56 [1]).
- **1951** 9 February, Allen Dulles wrote Medical Division memos: “[a] third [memo] asks: Can a person under hypnosis be forced to commit murder?” (page 40 [1]).
- **1953-1975 *MK-ULTRA*** “On April 13, 1953, Dulles formally approved the research project [systematisation of Artichoke] [...] Gottlieb’s project would be called MK-ULTRA” (page 73 [1]). “From the earliest days of MK-ULTRA, Gottlieb and his fellow scientists were tantalized by the potential of hypnosis” (page 86 [1]). “He [Gottlieb] retired in 1973 after 22 years with the agency, destroying all the MK-ULTRA files (or so he thought) before he left. When another secret CIA program was exposed by reporter Seymour Hersh in 1974, it ignited a slew of investigations into the CIA, and Gottlieb’s name was made public in regard to the LSD experiments in 1975. He eventually testified before Congress several times, but only after being granted immunity from prosecution. **By the end of his life, he was working as a speech pathologist for children**. He died in 1999, and never paid for his cruelty” [...] John Marks, whose book, “The Search for the Manchurian Candidate,” exposed MK-ULTRA after he found files that Gottlieb missed... “ [6]
- **1956** “In 1956 [...] Ewen Cameron, published a paper in the American Journal of Psychiatry describing his ‘adaptation of Hebb’s psychological isolation.’ He reported experiments in which he enclosed patients in small cells, placed them in a ‘clinical coma’ using hypnosis and drugs, including LSD, and then **subjected them to endless repetition of simple recorded phrases**” (page 137 [1]).
- **1973** Sidney Gottlieb retires aged 54. [US Far-right: William Pierce formed National Youth Alliance 1970 and published the Turner Diaries 1978]. **1999** Sidney Gottlieb died, 80 years of age [5], meaning he would have been 62 years old in 1981 and 76 in 1995. [South Africa: Project Coast 1981-1995].
- **2004-2006 DCIA Porter Goss** wanted ‘more arrows in the quiver’ for covert action, namely **‘cyberspace’ and ‘mind management’** (page 240 [2]) "But he specifically wanted to do so under a Republican president. The notion of a politically neutral DCI seemed to have been lost” (page 242 [2]).

**NOTE: 1958 *Artificial Intelligence*** “The term “artificial intelligence” is usually attributed to John McCarthy, a former colleague of [Martin] Minsky’s at M.I.T. McCarthy, a mathematician and now a professor of computer science at Stanford, coined the phrase in the mid-nineteen-fifties to describe the ability of certain machines to do things that people are inclined to call intelligent. In 1958, McCarthy and [**Marvin Minsky**] created the Artificial Intelligence Group at M.I.T., and it soon became one of the most distinguished scientific enterprises in the world.” [4] **2021 *Tech firms and radicalisation*** “Addressing the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism’s 20th annual summit in Israel, Dick said tech firms were not doing enough to stop the radicalisation of vulnerable people. [...] Some groups aimed to radicalise young or vulnerable people online to carryout less complicated attacks using knives or vehicles rather than higher-risk bomb plots, she [Dame Cressida Dick, the metropolitan police commissioner]said [addressing the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism’s 20th annual summit in Israel, about radicalisation of vulnerable people]. “in the past, perhaps **recruiting children** or those with mental ill-health would have been an unacceptable risk when trying to execute a complex bomb plot. “But when you’re simply trying to push vulnerable people over the edge towards crude, direct action such as random knife attack, the opposite is true,” she said.” [3]

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*Dr Karin Johansson Blight has searched for, read and quoted the text on this 1 page ppt slide and is not affiliated to the CIA or any other secret service or police organisation.*

*The slide was uploaded to researchgate.net 08 November 2022 (This is Draft 3, reference 5 was missing in the text in previous drafts; this reference has been added to this draft 3). .*