

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHRONOLOGY

- 22 January 1946 Central Intelligence Group (CIG) was established by Presidential Directive and first Director of Central Intelligence was appointed. No one formally designated to deal with public queries.
- 18 September 1947 The National Security Act of 1947 replaced the CIG with the Central Intelligence Agency. No one yet designated to deal with public.
- 14 May 1951 The first "CIA Spokeman," *Col. Chester B. Hansen* (a former public relations aide to General Omar Bradley) was appointed by the then DCI, General Walter Bedell Smith. Hansen was charged with dealing with the press and drafting DCI presentations to Congress.
- 29 September 1952 General Smith, testifying at a court hearing, stated that there were Communists in the CIA and that these "adroit and adept" persons probably had sneaked into all other security groups. The statement precipitated a rare press conference held the next day to clarify and modify the statement.
- 7 October 1952 *Col. Stanley Grogan*, an Army public affairs specialist, took over as CIA spokesman and his office was designated the Office of the Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence. Serving in the position for 10 years, he dealt with the McCarthy hearings, Agency operations in Iran and Guatemala, the U-2 incident, the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban missile crisis.
- 10 November 1963 After suffering a heart attack, Grogan was replaced by *Paul M. Chretien*. During his tenure, the first book critical of the Agency—*The Invisible Government* by David Wise and Thomas Ross—was published. Also Chretien retained Col. Grogan on a consultative basis and added *John A. Mellin* to the office.

- 28 April 1965 The new DCI, Vice Admiral William F. Raborn, named *Cdr. George F. Moran* to replace Chretien. Moran acted primarily as the personal aide to Admiral Raborn and the maintenance of press contacts and the day-to-day operation of the office was left to Mellin and Grogan.
- 29 August 1966 *Joseph A. Goodwin*, an intelligence officer in the Directorate of Plans (DDP) and a former Associated Press editor and war correspondent, was named by then Director Richard Helms to replace Moran as the Assistant to the Director. During his period in office, the *Ramparts* magazine charges concerning CIA infiltration of the National Students Association were published. The reporting on the six-day war between Israel and the Arabs won plaudits during Goodwin's tenure.
- 1 November 1971 *Angus Thuermer*, a former Associated Press correspondent and veteran intelligence officer, was appointed Assistant to the Director. The ITT-Chile story broke in March 1972 and the Watergate break-in followed in June. In addition, the *New York Times* stories alleging CIA conduct of "massive illegal domestic intelligence operation during the Nixon administration. . . ." appeared and the Glomar Explorer revelation followed.
- 13 June 1976 Shortly after George Bush replaced William E. Colby as DCI, he appointed *Andrew T. Falkiewicz*, a career USIA officer, as Assistant to the Director.
- 28 March 1977 Admiral Stansfield Turner, in his first appointment after becoming Director of Central Intelligence, named *Herbert E. Hetu* to head a new Public Affairs Office with a mandate to inform the American public about the role of the intelligence process.
- 24 July 1977 CBS 60 Minutes aired "Report on the CIA" marking the first of several times cameras were to be allowed into the Headquarters building.
- 24 January 1978 Executive Order 12036 reshaped the United States intelligence structure and charged the DCI to "act, in appropriate consultation with the departments and agencies, as the Intelligence Community's principal spokesperson to the Congress, the news media and the public. . . ."
- 15 April 1978 Public Affairs acquired status of independent office.