

Surveillance, Police, National Security States and Secret Government: Some recent history (28 September 2019)

[nb. Although some of you have given up on Wikipedia for its many omissions and errors, I continue to find it very useful, especially for thumbnail introductions to a wide variety of topics, including those mentioned here.]

Since 9-11, the terms "surveillance state," "police state" and "secret government" have become commonplace in discussions of a democracy engulfed in fake news, the tweets of a pathological liar, and the increasingly blatant ripoffs of the commons by a billionaires' plutocracy.

As a student of history, my recent and current reading in this area have led from a look into Cointelpro

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/COINTELPRO>

and related domestic activities of the FBI and CIA in the US from the 50s to the 70s beginning with Operation Paperclip,

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Paperclip

to the atrocities of, among others, Operation Mockingbird and Projects Artichoke, Bluebird and MK ULTRA),

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Mockingbird

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_ARTICHOKE

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra

and thence to other inter-related Cold War activities of the CIA including but not limited to:

1) Operation Gladio, the secret "stay behind" armed forces throughout Europe after WW II

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Gladio

2) Operation Condor, the covert operations throughout Latin America involving the overthrow of democratically-elected governments and installation of brutal dictatorships in several countries

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Condor

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/1976_Argentine_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirty_War

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_dictatorship_of_Chile_\(1973%E2%80%931990\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_dictatorship_of_Chile_(1973%E2%80%931990))

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contras>

This last reference leads full circle back to the domestic CIA covert experiments with drugs and mind control explored (with a focus on collusion between government and mainstream media) in Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair, "Whiteout: The CIA, Drugs and the Press" (London/NY: Verso, 1998).