

***The Devil's Chessboard:***

*Allen Dulles, the CIA, and the Rise of America's Secret Government* by David Talbot

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**KEY REVEALS FROM *THE DEVIL'S CHESSBOARD***

Based on interviews with family members and colleagues of top spies, as well as newly released government documents, *The Devil's Chessboard* presents a shocking portrait of a secret espionage circle that collaborated with Nazi war criminals; engaged in torture, kidnapping, murder and inhumane mind-control experiments; and defied a series of presidents, from FDR to JFK.

Among the book's revelations:

- New evidence connects Allen Dulles – the CIA's most legendary director – to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the cover-up of the crime.
- After the assassination, Dulles and his CIA supporters lobbied President Johnson to have him placed on the Warren Commission, where he played a dominant role in the investigation. Dulles worked behind the scenes with his former CIA colleagues to steer the commission away from evidence that implicated the spy agency in the crime.
- Even after he was forced out of the CIA by JFK in November 1961, Dulles continued to operate as if he were still running the spy agency, meeting with top CIA officials and field agents and undermining Kennedy policy by secretly conferring with foreign officials.
- In April 1961, as President Kennedy grappled with the CIA-engineered Bay of Pigs fiasco in Cuba, President Charles de Gaulle of France was threatened by a military coup that he strongly believed was also CIA-inspired. While communicating his support to de Gaulle, JFK made it clear that he was not in full control of his own government.
- Dulles's treasonous pattern of sabotaging official U.S. policy began during World War II, when he served as the top OSS spy in continental Europe. In direct defiance of President Roosevelt's policy of "unconditional surrender," Dulles secretly met with top Nazi generals and representatives of the Nazi regime who were pursuing a separate peace deal. Dulles's clandestine efforts resulted in the Operation Sunrise deal with Nazi forces in Italy, which helped splinter the wartime alliance with the Soviet Union and trigger the Cold War.

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- After the war, Dulles helped many high-ranking Nazi officials escape justice at the Nuremberg war crimes tribunal, including German generals and corporate executives with whom he and his brother and Wall Street law partner – John Foster Dulles – had done business before and during the war. High among them was Reinhard Gehlen, Hitler's spymaster on the Eastern Front, whom Dulles helped install as the top intelligence official in postwar West Germany. The West German government, in fact, was filled with so many former Nazi officials, reports Talbot, that the Third Reich was not so much defeated as repurposed.
- Many of the controversial practices of today's U.S. intelligence community – including assassination, torture, extraordinary rendition, mass surveillance of American civilians, and mind-control experimentation – began not after 9/11, but under Dulles's Cold War regime at the CIA.
- The massive, multimillion-dollar mind control program codenamed by the CIA "MK-ULTRA" – which Dulles announced in 1953 – was literally brought home by the CIA director when he subjected his own son, Allen Jr., to insulin shock therapy at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, under the care of the eminent CIA-funded neurologist, Dr. Harold Wolff. The controversial procedure resulted in coma – and sometimes violent convulsions and death.
- *The Devil's Chessboard* reveals how Dulles and his Wall Street and national security colleagues formed a tight power circle that functioned as its own secret government – often in opposition to presidents and the rule of democracy. The Dulles group was behind the formation of what has become known in recent years as "the deep state" – a shadow government that has overthrown elected leaders and undermined democracy at home and abroad.