

Operation Paperclip – CIA And The Nazis

By Matthias Chang – Future Fast-Forward

Introduction

This is my personal effort to share research in Intelligence Issues with my friends in the Malaysian Intelligence Community. To be useful and objective, we have to research from all sources - official and unofficial, and not to accept as gospel truths from a specific source because their professional training and “indoctrination” were by a specific Intel Agency from overseas such as the CIA, FBI, and British Intel Agencies.

For this article, I had obtained data from the Records of the US Secretary of Defense, the Center for Intelligence Studies (particularly the Studies in Intelligence, the journal for American Intelligence Professionals) and other sources which have been disclosed in the End Notes below.

Cutting To The Chase

Records of the Secretary of Defense (RG 330)

Joint Intelligence Objectives Agency

Notice to Researchers in Records Released under the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act and the Japanese Imperial Government Records Act

The Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG), in implementing the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act and the Japanese Imperial Government Records Act, has taken the broadest view in identifying records that may be responsive to the Acts. Information relevant to the Acts is often found among files related to other subjects. In order to preserve the archival integrity of the files, the IWG and the National Archives and Records Administration, where possible, have released entire files together, not just those items related to Nazi or Japanese war criminals, crimes, persecution, and looted assets. These records may relate to persons who are war criminals, former Axis personnel who are not war criminals, victims of war crimes or persecution, or civilian or military personnel investigating Nazi activities; the records may also include mention of, or information about, persons having no connection to these activities.

The Joint Intelligence Objectives Agency (JIOA) was established in 1945 as a subcommittee of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS). The JIC served as the intelligence arm of the JCS, responsible for advising the JCS on the intelligence problems and policies and furnishing intelligence information to the JCS and the Department of State. The JIC was composed of the Army's director of intelligence, the chief of naval intelligence, the assistant chief of Air Staff-2, and a representative of the Department of State.

The JIOA was given direct responsibility for operating the foreign scientist program, initially code-named Overcast and subsequently code-named *Paperclip*. The JIOA was composed of one representative of each member agency of the JIC, and an operational staff of military intelligence officers from the different military services.

Among the JIOA's duties were administering the program's policies and procedures, compiling dossiers, and serving as liaison to British intelligence officers operating a similar project. It was also responsible for collecting, declassifying, and distributing Combined Intelligence Objectives Subcommittee (CIOS) and other technical intelligence reports on German science and industry. In addition, the JIOA took over many of the activities of CIOS when that organization was terminated. The JIOA was disbanded in 1962.

Annie Jacobsen her book, “Operation Paperclip – The Secret Intelligence Program that brought the Nazis Scientists to America”, wrote and I quote in extenso:

“Operation Paperclip was a post-war U.S. intelligence program that brought German scientists to America under secret military contracts. The program had a benign public face and a classified body of secrets and lies. “I’m mad on technology,” Adolf Hitler told his inner circle at a dinner party in 1942, and in the aftermath of the German surrender more than sixteen hundred of Hitler’s technologists would become America’s own.

“What follows puts a spotlight on twenty-one of these men. Under Operation Paperclip, which began in May of 1945, the scientists who helped the Third Reich wage war continued their weapons-related work for the U.S. government, developing rockets, chemical and biological weapons, aviation and space medicine (for enhancing military pilot and astronaut performance), and many other armaments at a feverish and paranoid pace that came to define the Cold War. The age of weapons of mass destruction had begun, and with it came the treacherous concept of brinkmanship—the art of pursuing dangerous policy to the limits of safety before stopping.

“Hiring dedicated Nazis was without precedent, entirely unprincipled, and inherently dangerous not just because, as Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson stated when debating if he should approve Paperclip, “These men are enemies,” but because it was counter to democratic ideals....”

This is the harsh reality of geopolitics! And for the global hegemonic agenda, what was once the enemy, are now close collaborators and all options are on the table. So what democracy are we debating about, when YOU without any sense of history and objective research, are the willing enforcers of the hegemonic agenda.

I have no bitterness in saying that the Malaysian Deep State in preserving its heinous power, without any basis, arrested and charged me under the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act 2012 (SOSMA) for exposing the 1MDB crimes at the highest levels. I was considered a terrorist and imprisoned. But, I was vindicated with an acquittal on the date of the full trial (a date which I had insisted) when the prosecutor offered no evidence at all against me and my client who accompanied in lodging police reports overseas.

It is strange that not one politician / leader in the Opposition ranks at the material time and even now was arrested and or imprisoned for exposing the 1MDB crimes, but rather celebrated as heroes and swaggering like the peacocks! They dare not enter the lions' den but were contend in making noise and to be seen to be doing something.

This is the freaking hypocritical reality of scumbag politics, the opportunistic politicians and power-seeking so-called "civil society leaders"! So, look no further when friends and enemies sleep and frolic together for power and domination.

Annie Jacobsen wrote and exposed further,

"The men profiled in this book were not nominal Nazis. Eight of the twenty-one—Otto Ambros, Theodor Benzinger, Kurt Blome, Walter Dornberger, Siegfried Knemeyer, Walter Schreiber, Walter Schieber, and Wernher von Braun—each at some point worked side by side with Adolf Hitler, Heinrich Himmler, or Hermann Göring during the war. Fifteen of the twenty-one were dedicated members of the Nazi Party; ten of them also joined the ultra-violent, ultra nationalistic Nazi Party paramilitary squads, the SA (Sturmabteilung, or Storm Troopers) and the SS (Schutzstaffel, or Protection Squadron); two wore the Golden Party Badge, indicating favour bestowed by the Führer; one was given an award of one million reichsmarks for scientific achievement. Six of the twenty-one stood trial at Nuremberg, a seventh was released without trial under mysterious circumstances, and an eighth stood trial in Dachau for regional war crimes. One was convicted of mass murder and slavery, served some time in prison, was granted clemency, and then was hired by the U.S. Department of Energy.

"They came to America at the behest of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Some officials believed that by endorsing the Paperclip program they were accepting the lesser of two evils—that if America didn't recruit these scientists, the Soviet Communists surely would. Other generals and colonels respected and admired these men and said so."

And did I not say that friends and enemies sleep and frolic together for power, when convenient?

Annie Jacobsen continues,

"To comprehend the impact of Operation Paperclip on American national security during the early days of the Cold War, and the legacy of war-fighting technology it has left behind, it is important first to understand that the program was governed out of an office in the elite "E" ring of the Pentagon.

"The Joint Intelligence Objectives Agency (JIOA) was created solely and specifically to recruit and hire Nazi scientists and put them on weapons projects and in scientific intelligence programs within the army, the navy, the air force, the CIA (starting in 1947), and other organizations. In some cases, when individual scientists had been too close to Hitler, the JIOA hired them to work at U.S. military facilities in occupied Germany. The JIOA was a subcommittee of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC), which provided national security information for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The JIC remains the least known and least studied U.S. intelligence agency of the twentieth century.

"To understand the mind-set of the Joint Intelligence Committee, consider this: Within one year of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the JIC warned the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the United States needed to prepare for "total war" with the Soviets—to include atomic, chemical, and biological warfare—and they even set an estimated start date of 1952 This book focuses on that uneasy period, from 1945 to 1952, in which the JIOA's recruitment of Nazi scientists was forever on the rise, culminating in

“Accelerated Paperclip, which allowed individuals previously deemed undesirable to be brought to the United States—including Major General Dr. Walter Schreiber, the surgeon general of the Third Reich. Operation Paperclip left behind a legacy of ballistic missiles, sarin gas cluster bombs, underground bunkers, space capsules, and weaponized bubonic plague. It also left behind a trail of once-secret documents that I accessed to report this book, including post-war interrogation reports, army intelligence security dossiers, Nazi Party paperwork, Allied intelligence armaments reports, declassified JIOA memos, Nuremberg trial testimony, oral histories, a general’s desk diaries, and a Nuremberg war crimes investigator’s journal. Coupled with exclusive interviews and correspondence with children and grandchildren of these Nazi scientists, five of whom shared with me the personal papers and unpublished writings of their family members, what follows is the unsettling story of Operation Paperclip.

“All of the men profiled in this book are now dead. Enterprising achievers as they were, just as the majority of them won top military and science awards when they served the Third Reich, so it went that many of them won top U.S. military and civilian awards serving the United States. One had a U.S. government building named after him, and, as of 2013, two continue to have prestigious national science prizes given annually in their names. One invented the ear thermometer. Others helped man get to the moon.

“How did this happen, and what does this mean now? Does accomplishment cancel out past crimes? These are among the central questions in this dark and complicated tale. It is a story populated with Machiavellian connivers and men who dedicate their lives to designing weapons for the coming war. It is also a story about victory, and what victory can often entail. It is rife with Nazis, many of whom were guilty of accessory to murder but were never charged, and lived out their lives in prosperity in the United States. In the instances where a kind of justice is delivered, it rings of half-measure.”

It is remarkable how we forget history or rather ignore history and rationalise the abuse of power that is staring at our faces. We give excuses and justify our cowardice and hypocrisy as:

- Not my business;
- Why should I stick my neck out;
- Let others do the heavy lifting;
- I have to ensure that I get my promotions and pensions etc.;
- I am retired and have other priorities;

What is happening in Ukraine and Gaza?

Who are the real threats and the most barbaric?

Who are slaughtering the innocent men, women and children?

When will we ever learn?

Need I say more?

End Notes

The National Archives Catalog - Articles from "Studies in Intelligence" in the Records of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) (Record Group 263) that

includes 4 references to Operation Paperclip and 13 references to "German scientists".

The Intelligence Publication Files, 1946-1950 in Record Group 263 that contains 3 references to "German scientists", and the series Second Release of Subject Files Under the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Acts includes 3 references to Operation Paperclip and 14 references to "German scientists"

Second Release of Name Files Under the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Acts, which contains 1 reference to Project (Operation) Paperclip and 13 references to "German scientists".

National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Program Records in the Records of the National Park Service (NPS) (Record Group 79) that includes 4 references to Operation Paperclip and 12 references to "German scientists".

Non-digitized records related to Operation Paperclip - including:

- First Release of Subject Files Under the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Acts in Record Group 263 contains the file Project PAPERCLIP
- Records Relating to Operation Paperclip, 1948-1953 in the Records of U.S. Army Operational, Tactical, and Support Organizations (World War II and Thereafter) (Record Group 338)
- Records Relating to the Exploitation of German Scientists (Operation Paperclip), 1945-1948 in the Records of the Bureau of Naval Weapons (Record Group 402)
- Records Relating to the Exploitation of German Scientists, covering 1945-1965 in Record Group 402
- Top Secret Correspondence, 7/3/1947 - 6/10/1949 in the Records of Headquarters U.S. Air Force (Air Staff) (Record Group 341)
- State, War, Navy Department Coordinating Committee Study Reports and Other Records, 1945 1947 in the Records of U.S. Occupation Headquarters, World War II (Record Group 260)
- Records Related to the Law for Liberation from National Socialism and Militarism, 1945-1949 in Record Group 260 contains 3 files related to Paperclip
- General Records of the Section Chief, 1945-1949 in Record Group 260 contains the file Operation Paperclip - 9484
- Public Safety General Files, 1946-1949 in Record Group 260 contains 2 files related to Paperclip
- Central Office Records, 1945-1949 in Record Group 260 contains 2 files related to Paperclip
- Historical Background Files, 1921-1981 in the Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Army) (Record Group 153)
- Historical Records , 1935-1977 in the Records of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (Record Group 526)

- General Correspondence, 1947-1951 in the Records of United States Army, Europe (Record Group 549)

See also the 2nd PDF below this main article which is posted to the website for Top Secret Documents, since declassified.