

Unauthorized Disclosures of Classified Information
Text Alternative



The Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)
Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive (ONCIX)

attack could have been prevented if the intelligence from the intercepted communications had not been lost.

(Image Alt: Cover of *Time* magazine with headline, "Carnage in Beirut.")

Gamma Guppy - Loss of Life and Damage to Sources & Methods

Background: Under an effort with the code name "Gamma Guppy," the U.S. exploited its capability to intercept communications from the limousines of senior officials within the Soviet government. In 1971, the *Washington Post* disclosed this capability with a headline that read "CIA Eavesdrops on Kremlin Chiefs."

Result: After the article was published, the Soviets began encrypting the conversations so that additional information was inaccessible. In addition, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) reportedly lost contact with an asset who had worked as a mechanic on the limousines. He was never heard from again and presumed killed.

(Image Alt: Collage of newspaper article and Soviet limousine.)

Welch/Kinsman - Loss of Life

Background: In 1969, Philip Agee, a former Case Officer, resigned from the CIA, moved out of the country, and began his campaign to weaken the CIA because of his ideological differences with the mission of the agency. As part of his campaign against the CIA, Agee was determined to expose CIA activity outside the U.S., including identifying CIA employees assigned overseas. An early 1975 edition of the magazine, *Counterspy*, published an article which included the following quote from Agee, "The most effective and important systematic attempts to combat the CIA that can be undertaken right now are, I think, the identification, exposure, and neutralization of its people working abroad." In the same issue of *Counterspy*, Richard Welch was identified as the CIA's Chief of Station (COS) in Greece. On November 25th, a Greek newspaper, the *Athens Daily*, also published Welch's identity. In 1980, the magazine, *Covert Action Bulletin*, also with a reported affiliation to Philip Agee, revealed the identities of 15 CIA officials working in Jamaica.

Result: On December 24, 1975, just one month after the article was published in the *Athens Daily*; COS Richard Welch was assassinated outside of his home in Athens. In 1980, just two days after the *Covert Action Bulletin* article was published, an attempt was made on the life of Richard Kinsman, who had been identified as the COS in Jamaica. Agee ultimately settled in Cuba, where he ran a travel agency until his death. He never returned to the U.S. after he began disclosing information about the identities of CIA employees and their activities

(Image Alt: Newspaper article with images of Richard Welch.)

Curveball - Impact to International Alliances

Background: Prior to the U.S. invasion of Iraq, "Curveball" was recruited by an allied foreign intelligence service to provide information regarding the status of Iraq's WMD program. As later explained in the WMD Commission Report, the allied intelligence service refused a request from the U.S. IC for direct access to Curveball for fear that his identity would be leaked. As it turned out, the information provided by Curveball was later determined not to be credible.