

Secret Agenda

To Harold Weesby,
One researcher to another.

Hope you enjoy the
end result of my
8-year pursuit.

Linda Hart.

(continued from front flap)

Secret Agenda for the first time exposes the full story of Paperclip; from its earliest deceptions in the 1940s and 1950s to the work of Arthur Rudolph and Wernher von Braun on the Apollo program and the congressional and Justice Department investigations—the latter still ongoing—of the 1970s and 1980s. Thoroughly researched and utterly convincing, *Secret Agenda* is an important and disturbing book about one of the most sordid chapters in American history.



ARNOLD KRAMER

LINDA HUNT is a Washington-based reporter whose Paperclip stories received international attention and won the Investigative Reporters and Editors Award in 1985. She was formerly executive producer of CNN's investigative unit.



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SECRET AGENDA

The subject of this book is hauntingly familiar: a group of men in the Pentagon who decide that they alone know what is best for the country. Project "Paperclip"—their effort to bring German scientists, including known Nazis, to the U.S. after World War II—ran roughshod over official American government policy; its details and deceptions were then covered up for decades—until now.

Even before the war in Europe was over, U.S. intelligence agents were scouring Germany in search of the Reich's top scientists—to gain "the spoils of war," but more importantly, to keep them out of the hands of the Soviets. That many of these scientists had been members of the Nazi party; that a number had been accused and even convicted at Nuremberg; that President Truman had issued a presidential directive forbidding the immigration of ardent Nazis—none of this mattered; the men who ran Paperclip simply cleansed the scientists' records and installed them in high-level military and industry positions.

(continued on back flap)

From the prologue to *Secret Agenda*:

American soldiers fighting in World War II had barely laid down their guns when hundreds of German and Austrian scientists, including a number implicated in Nazi war crimes, began immigrating to the United States. They were brought here under a secret intelligence project code-named "Paperclip." Ever since, the U.S. government has successfully promoted the lie that Paperclip was a short-term operation limited to a few postwar raids on Hitler's hoard of scientific talent. The General Accounting Office even claims that the project ended in 1947.

All of which is sheer propaganda.

"This book uncovers the secret behind one of the most shameful pages in American history. It is an important warning. There are agencies that will ignore the law, do whatever they think is best for themselves, even if this means protecting Nazi war criminals. And that's very dangerous."

—Elizabeth Holtzman, former United States congresswoman



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