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CIA Funding Journalistic Network Abroad

by Walter Pincus

The [CIA] secretly created over 25 years and still finances a vast journalistic network outside the United States that is available to carry out covert propaganda campaigns.

Made up of journalist agents, subsidized newspapers, radio stations and international wire and news services, the network is one of the less-publicized tools in the agency's covert arsenal.

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A glimpse of how the CIA network operates was contained in a recent report of the Senate intelligence committee.

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According to a Senate staff presentation, "propaganda and manipulation of the press" were the first covert actions undertaken by the agency when it was organized in 1947.

By 1953, according to the same report, CIA had covert operations including propaganda campaigns under way in 50 countries.

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(Article includes many examples of CIA methods.)

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