Washington's elite Georgetown enclave, with its expensive town houses, seems a strange training ground for cutthroats who have helped dictator Idi Amin put to death hundreds of thousands of his Ugandan subjects.

Yet we have learned that the Central Intelligence Agency recruited at least 10 of Amin's handpicked henchmen for special police training, in a strange "prep school" that the American taxpayers established in the exclusive confines of Georgetown.

These Ugandan police and intelligence agents attended the International Police Academy, ostensibly operated by the Agency for International Development but secretly supported by the CIA. They returned to Uganda to torture and execute Amin's victims.

One of the Ugandan graduates was J. Bigirwa, who went home to work for Uganda's dread Public Safety Unit, which carries out Amin's murder orders. We have also learned the names of other CIA-sponsored trainees from Uganda who later held powerful police or intelligence posts under the bloodthirsty Amin. They include:

- Gerald O. Malinga, an assistant commissioner of police. After his U.S. experience, he was promoted to the Public Safety Unit, which is widely involved in carrying out Amin's genocide against his own people.
- Joseph Wambus Peter, now an investigator for the Ugandan Criminal Investigations Division, known for its brutal interrogations and for arresting innocent Ugandans in the middle of the night for trivial offenses.
- Charles Frederick Sseruwo, currently believed to be a Ugandan police officer.
- John Walusana, a former police officer. He was promoted by Amin to be governor of a province but later lost favor with the dictator. He is now believed to be in hiding from his former Georgetown colleagues.

A CIA spokesman refused any official comment on the Ugandan police training. But we did elicit the unattributed comments of several at the agency who knew about it. "By training Amin's men," one CIA official told our reporter Murray Waas, "we were able to have some influence over the elite in that country and thus have some influence over Amin. It was also a possibility that we could go back to the trainees later for intelligence information."