

*Spy For Hire* by Dan Mayland  
Glossary

**Abkhazia**—A disputed territory on the border of Russia and the nation of Georgia; Mark Sava served there in the early 1990s.

**Agent**—Typically a citizen of a foreign country who has been recruited—by a CIA operations officer—to spy for the United States. A CIA agent is not an employee of the CIA, although he may receive money or other forms of payment in return for his services.

**Ambassador**—The US ambassador to a foreign country is an employee of the State Department and serves as a representative of the president of the United States. A CIA station chief is supposed to inform the ambassador of all CIA operations taking place in that foreign country.

**CAIN**—Short for Central Asian Information Networks; a spies-for-hire firm that operates in Central Asia.

**CENTCOM**—An abbreviation of United States Central Command. CENTCOM is responsible for operations in the Middle East, Central Asia, Pakistan, Afghanistan and parts of northern Africa. It is comprised of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Special Operations units assigned to that part of the world.

**CIA**—Acronym for Central Intelligence Agency.

**Central Eurasia Division**—The division within the CIA's National Clandestine Service that is believed to cover Russia and nations that were formerly a part of the Soviet Union.

**Chador**—A large piece of fabric, often but not always black, that is used by many Muslim women to cover their hair and bodies.

**Consulate**—Similar to an embassy except that a consulate would be run by a consul rather than an ambassador. In many countries, the US has one main embassy (there can only be one embassy and ambassador), and several smaller satellite consulates.

**Dinar**—The name of the basic unit of currency in Bahrain.

**DoD**—Acronym for the US Department of Defense.

**Fifth Fleet**—The US Naval group responsible for patrolling the Persian Gulf and its environs; based in Bahrain.

**GIP**—Acronym for General Intelligence Presidency, which is what the Saudi version of the CIA is called.

**KGB**—Acronym for the komitet gosudarstvennoy bezopasnosti, which in Russian means Committee for State Security. The KGB was the intelligence agency of the Soviet Union and was disbanded when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. (It's successor is known in Russia as the FSB.)

**Lada**—A cheap, popular car produced in Russia.

**Langley**—Refers to Langley, Virginia, the town in which the headquarters of the CIA is located.

**Manas Air Base**—Officially known as the Transit Center at Manas, this is a US air base located just north of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The base was used extensively by the US during the war in Afghanistan, and is still in use today. It's a bit of an odd setup in that the base is actually a part of Manas International Airport, which is the main civilian airport that services Bishkek; the US just leases a part of the civilian airport.

**Mina Salman**—A huge seaport located on the eastern edge of Manama, the capital city of Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf. The US Navy leases a large portion of Mina Salman to accommodate the Fifth Fleet.

**Nagorno-Karabakh**—A disputed territory between Azerbaijan and Armenia; Mark Sava served there in the early 1990s.

**Narde**—A backgammon-like game popular in Iran, Central Asia, and the Caucasus (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, etc.).

**NCS**—Acronym for National Clandestine Service, the group within the CIA that does the actual spying.

**Near East Division**—Officially known as the Near East and South Asia Division. The division within the CIA's National Clandestine Service (the group within the CIA that does the actual spying) that is believed to cover the Middle East, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

**Operations Officer**—An employee of the CIA who works for the division of the CIA known as the National Clandestine Service. They're what most people think of as spies.

**PNG**—Acronym for *persona non grata*. It's a legal/diplomatic term applied to people who are no longer welcome in a particular nation, city, or region.

**SEAL**—Acronym for a member of the US Navy's special forces Sea, Air, Land Teams.

**Seventh Floor**—Shorthand for the leadership of the CIA, most of whom have offices on the seventh floor of CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia.

**Shia**—A member of the second most popular version of Islam. Shia's believe that the successors to the prophet Muhammad should be related to the prophet by blood.

**Som**—The name of the basic unit of currency in Kyrgyzstan.

**Special Activities Division**—A division within the CIA's National Clandestine Service that will often carry out paramilitary operations.

**Station Chief**—An employee of the CIA who oversees all CIA operations that take place within a particular country, or region within a country; a station chief would manage operations officers and consult closely with the ambassador.

**Sunni**—A member of the most popular version of Islam. Sunnis do not believe that successors to the prophet Muhammad need to be related to the prophet by blood.