



# Undercover Washington: Where Famous Spies Lived, Worked and Loved (Capital Travels)

*Pamela Kessler*

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## **Undercover Washington: Where Famous Spies Lived, Worked and Loved (Capital Travels) Pamela Kessler**

In times of peace or war, Washington, D.C. is the spy capital of the world. The original spymaster George Washington, whose home was in nearby Mt. Vernon, started it all when he had false information planted in British pouches and used disappearing ink to instruct his agents. Since then, the capital has been a hotbed of espionage, chock full of all the targets of any self-respecting spy—the CIA, the FBI, the Pentagon, NSA, and more. Diplomats, politicians, generals, scholars, secretaries and clerks, mistresses and wives have lied, contrived, connived, denied, cheated, blackmailed, seduced and betrayed each other here, right up to the current war on terrorism. Pamela Kessler, a former Washington Post reporter and an expert on the local espionage scene, takes readers on a guided tour through D.C. and nearby Virginia and Maryland to more than 70 dropsites, safehouses, graveyards, mansions, museums, secure government offices and restaurant rendezvous where the spy game has been played. Kessler reveals the tales behind each featured site and offers more than 60 photographs of secret agents and the hangouts where they lived, worked, loved and sometimes died gruesome deaths. Lurk through Maryland, sneak through Virginia, and hide in Washington as you visit such places as: - Hotel George—the Washington hotel where the only Soviet general to survive Stalin's blood purge of Red Army officers died a mysterious death. - Mailbox at the corner of 37th and R Streets N.W.—where Aldrich Ames, who worked for the KGB while serving as the CIA's chief of Soviet counterintelligence, signaled his handler he was ready to make a drop. - The Exchange—the D.C. restaurant where KGB mole Karl Koecher and his wife Hana met with a swinging couples group for exchange of wives and government secrets. - Foxstone Park—where "Doctor Death" Robert Hanssen dropped his last documents, just before his fellow FBI agents arrested him. - The Georgetown mansion where "Wild Bill" Donovan, founder of the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor to the CIA, held secret meetings during World War II. - Au Pied de Cochon—the Georgetown café where Soviet defector Vitaly Yurchenko had his last meal before redefecting. - The Northwest Washington home where Soviet spy Kim Philby lived while serving as First Secretary of the British Embassy. - FBI Headquarters—a preview of the redesigned tour that attracts half a million visitors a year. - National Cryptologic Museum—a former motel in Fort Meade, Maryland, where visitors now can learn the history of American signals intelligence and cryptology and find the largest public collection of Enigma machines. - The Willard Hotel—where Lafayette C. Baker, the infamous counterespionage officer in the Civil War, was recruited. - Congressional Country Club—the training place in Potomac, Maryland, for OSS agents to be parachuted behind enemy lines in World War II.

## REVIEWS

Pamela Kessler, a former Washington Post reporter, has written a delightful, offbeat guide to the Capital, *Undercover Washington* that spotlights the many places where spies did their dirty work from the days of the Civil War to the Cold War....If you are an espionage buff, this book will take you on a tour of the Capital like no other."

Alan Caruba, Bookviews.com, 2005/06

"If...you appreciate the covert art of dead drops, brush contacts, decrypts, and disinformation, then Kessler's *'Undercover Washington'* will prove to be a real page-turner."

Joint Forces Journal, Joint Forces Journal, 2005/05

"A fascinating book...An intriguing look into the often secret world of spies."  
John Clayton, "Travel with a Difference", KNX 1070 (California), 2005/06/18

"Washington is a city full of secrets, so this guide seems like the perfect combination of subject matter and place. The International Spy Museum and the FBI headquarters probably are the most open secret places. Otherwise, though, you're going to have to dig a little to find what you're looking for. This guide will help."  
June Sawyer, "The Resourceful Traveler", Chicago Tribune, 2005/06/05

"Daily Book Pick on Jim Agnew's website [www.jagnew.com](http://www.jagnew.com) "An intriguing guide to the offbeat places in DC, Virginia and Maryland where famous spies lived and worked in the spy capital of the world."  
Jim Agnew, [www.jagnew.com](http://www.jagnew.com), 2005/06/06

"Must Read"  
Today's Books, Today's Books, 2005/07

"A fascinating tour guide to the homes and rendezvous points of Washington's most famous spies....Most of this information can't be found in the conventional guides to D.C....But with 'Undercover Washington' in hand, readers will learn quite a bit - and have great stories to tell."  
John Miller, Washington Examiner, 2005/07/25

"In her new book out this summer, Washington author and espionage connoisseur Pamela Kessler identifies more than 70 drop sites, rendezvous sites, safe houses and secure government meeting places in and around the nation's capital where the spy game is played....As a summary of 'Undercover Washington' describes, diplomats, politicians, generals, scholars, secretaries, clerks, mistresses and wives have lied, contrived, connived, denied, cheated, blackmailed, seduced and betrayed -- and right under our noses."  
John McCaslin, "Inside the Beltway", The Washington Times, 2005/08/02

"Kessler, a former Washington Post reporter, knows the regional espionage landscape and takes the reader on a guided tour of drops, safehouses, graveyards, mansions, museums, secure government offices and restaurants used for rendezvous in the Washington area....This is an ideal gift or personal reference manual."  
Derk Kinnane Roelofsma, AFIO's Weekly Intelligence Notes, 2005/08/01

'Undercover Washington' by former Washington Post reporter Pamela Kessler takes readers on a guided tour of the spy capital of the world.  
Brittany Boyd, Loudoun Friday Times, 2005/08/05

"A fine guide to the homes and hangouts of Washington's spies. "  
John Miller, National Review, 2005/08/08

"More spies come to Washington than any other city in the world-and surreptitious as they may be, they still leave their mark. Nobody knows the secret sites of Washington spy life better than Pamela Kessler. Her newly revised guide to the spots where spies lived, loved, and sometimes died is hot off the press, and Kessler will reveal her favorites-from Foxstone Park to the Hotel George. If you appreciate the art of dead drops, brush contacts, decrypts, and disinformation and want to know where they happened, when, and why, join us for this inside look at the spy capital, Washington, DC."  
AFIO Weekly Intelligence Notes #40-05, AFIO Weekly Intelligence Notes #40-05, 2005/10/17

"Learn about the life of a spy and follow some of history's most infamous espionage agents in their travels and exploits around Washington, D.C."  
Loudoun Times Mirror, Loudoun Times Mirror, 2005/11/09

'Undercover Washington,' a look at the local spy scene by former Washington Post reporter and espionage expert Pamela KesslerDC Style Magazine, DC Style Magazine, 2005/11/14

"...an engaging book that spotlights dozens of nefarious locations around the DC area such as the swingers' club downtown where a married KGB couple met high-level conquests to later blackmail. "

Marc Silverstein, DC Style, 2006/03/09

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#### **Michael Walker:**

People live in this new time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the spare time or they will get great deal of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , if we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not just a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer may unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is definitely Undercover Washington: Where Famous Spies Lived, Worked and Loved (Capital Travels).

#### **Karen Strange:**

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