

U.S. Glorifies Nelson Mandela In Death. But Treated Him as a Terrorist While Alive.

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Region: [sub-Saharan Africa](#)

CIA Central In Mandela's Arrest ... Labelled Him a Terrorist Until 2008

Everyone from President Obama to the mainstream news is lionizing Nelson Mandela.

But the New York Times [reported](#) in 1990:

The Central Intelligence Agency played an important role in the arrest in 1962 of Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader who was jailed for nearly 28 years before his release four months ago, a news report says.

The intelligence service, using an agent inside the African National Congress, provided South African security officials with precise information about Mr. Mandela's activities that enabled the police to arrest him, said the account by the Cox News Service.

Newsweek reported in February that the agency was believed to have been involved.

At the time of Mr. Mandela's arrest in August 1962, the C.I.A. devoted more resources to penetrating the activities of nationalist groups like the African National Congress than did South Africa's then-fledgling security service.

A retired South African intelligence official, Gerard Ludi, was quoted in the report as saying that at the time of Mr. Mandela's capture, the C.I.A. had put an undercover agent into the inner circle of the African National Congress group in Durban.

Indeed, Nelson Mandela was only removed from the U.S. "terrorist" list in [2008](#).

Mandela was [highly critical](#) of U.S. foreign policy. And *anyone* – even U.S. citizens – critical of U.S. policy [may be labelled a bad guy](#).

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