

- Summer 66.** Consular elections for 65. Publius Cornelius Sulla and Publius Autronius Paetus elected. Quintus Gallius elected praetor with some help from Catiline, for which Gallius was later unsuccessfully prosecuted for *ambitus* (Ascon., 88.1-9C); we don't need to assume that Catiline had to be in Rome himself to help Gallius.
- Later in summer 66.** Sulla and Autronius successfully prosecuted for *ambitus* by the defeated candidates Lucius Aurelius Cotta and Lucius Manlius Torquatus (from Asconius 75.7-9C it appears that Cotta prosecuted Sulla, and Torquatus prosecuted Autronius, but Cic., *De finibus* II.62 seems to say the opposite). Re-run of the elections ordered.
- ? Later in summer 66 [conjectural sequence of events].** Catiline returns from his province of Africa and tries to enter the 'second election', probably with Sulla's support (Cic., *Sull.* 68 with J.T. Ramsey, *HSCP* 86 [1982], 121-31). His candidacy is disallowed by the consul Lucius Volcaciuss Tullus on the ground that he did not enter his candidacy *intra legitimos dies* (Sall., *Cat.* 18.3). The decision (taken on the advice of *consilium publicum* which seems to have included Hortensius) was probably influenced by the fact that Catiline was being prosecuted by Clodius on behalf of Africa for *repetundae* (Sall.; Asc. 89.8-12).
- Later in summer 66.** Torquatus (supported by Catiline?) and Cotta win consular elections.
- [5 Dec 66.** According to a later version (Sall., *Cat.* 18.5) the conspiracy of Catiline, Autronius and Piso is formed at approximately that date.]
- 29 Dec 66 (= *pridie Kal. Ian.*).** Cicero as praetor presides at the trial of Manilius for *repetundae* and attempts to help him. The trial is broken up by Manilius' supporters, who have a misunderstanding with Cicero (Plutarch, *Cicero* 9.4-7). Catiline is seen *cum telo* in the Comitium (Cic., *Cat.* I.15), presumably as part of Manilius' gangs.
- 1 Jan 65.** Torquatus and Cotta enter office. Some disturbance feared (as a result of disturbances the day before? from Sulla and Autronius?) and bodyguard voted by the Senate to the consuls (Cass. Dio 36.44.4-5). [According to later versions, Catiline and Autronius or Sulla, Catiline and Autronius plan a murder of consuls and entering the Forum with lictors on that day (Cic., *Sull.* 67-68; Sall., *Cat.* 18).]
- [5 Feb 65.** According to later allegations (Sall., *Cat.* 18.6-8) Catiline and Piso plan a massacre of senators for that date, but the plan fails, because Catiline gives the signal too early.]
- February 65 or a bit later.** Gnaeus Calpurnius Piso, *adulescens perditus* (Ascon.), is highly unusually appointed to govern Hispania Citerior *pro quaestore pro praetore*, perhaps due to Crassus' influence (*Inscriptiones Latinae selectae* 875; Sall., *Cat.* 19.1; Ascon. 92.20-22C; Suet., *Div. Iul.* 9.3, with Stockton, *Cicero*, 76 n. 24). [Asconius and Suetonius allege (implausibly) that it was done to get Piso to a place where he would not be dangerous, and Cicero in 64 speaks of 'Spanish stiletto' against the Republic.]
- Sometime in 65.** Trial of Catiline for *repetundae*. Initially defended by Cicero (Cic., *Att.* I.2) who later drops the defence and is persuaded of Catiline's manifest guilt (Cic., *Att.* I.1.1), then by Torquatus, who was Catiline's old *amicus* (Cic., *Sull.* 81). Catiline is acquitted, though the senators on the jury vote for condemnation (Ascon. 89.16-19C). Collusion by the prosecutor was later alleged (Cic., *har.*

- resp.* 42), but there seems to be good evidence that Clodius was a genuine enemy of Catiline at that stage of his career (Plutarch, *Cato Minor* 19.3; Cicero 29.1).
- Sometime in 65.** Crassus (then censor) unsuccessfully tries to get a command to annex Egypt, Caesar (then curule aedile) supports him (Cic., *leg. agr.* II.44; Plut., *Crass.* 13.2; Suet., *Div. Iul.* 11.1).
- Sometime before summer 64.** Piso is killed in Spain, allegedly by Pompey's clients (Ascon. 92.22-25C).
- Sometime in 64.** Publius Sittius, business agent of Sulla, goes to Hispania Ulterior and the kingdom of Mauretania – according to Torquatus (Cic., *Sull.* 56) and Sall., *Cat.* 20.3, to stir trouble in Catiline's interest. He re-emerges in 46 as a condotierre fighting on Caesar's side in the civil war.
- Sometime in 64.** Catiline prosecuted by Lucius Lucceius *inter sicarios* for his part in Sullan assassinations (a series of such trials happens that year) and is acquitted due to the help of Caesar, who presides in that court (Ascon. 90.15-91.13C; Cass. Dio 37.10.3).
- Summer 64.** In the *in toga candida*, delivered prior to consular elections, Cicero speaks of Catiline and Piso (now dead) planning *caedes optimatum* in the consulship of Cotta and Torquatus (Ascon. 92.11-25C). The fact that he thought that association with Piso would discredit Catiline suggests some known dodgy behaviour on Piso's part.
- 8 Nov 63.** Cicero mentions in the First Catilinarian that 'everybody knows' Catiline *in comitium cum telo stetisse* on 29 Dec 65 (see above).
- Late Nov 63.** Cicero mentions *consilium senatus intefeciendi* of Catiline and Piso again in the *Pro Murena* 81. Same reference was made late in the year in a letter to Pompey (not surviving, but referred to in the *Pro Sulla*).
- Early 62.** Autronius convicted for membership of the 'second' conspiracy.
- Later in 62.** Torquatus the son in his prosecution speech against Sulla accuses Sulla of conspiring with Autronius, Catiline and Piso against his father back in 66-65. Cicero in defence admits the guilt of Autronius, Catiline and Piso, but not Sulla (Cic., *Sull.* 67-68; 81; followed by Sall., *Cat.* 18.5). Sulla acquitted.
- 59.** Caesar's consulship and the 'first triumvirate' of Pompey, Crassus and Caesar. Pamphlets by Caesar's political opponents (his consular colleague M. Calpurnius Bibulus, C. Scribonius Curio the elder, M. Actorius Naso, Tanusius Geminus) accuse Caesar and Crassus of being behind the conspiracies of 66-65 (Suetonius, *Div. Iul.* 9).
- 42 or later.** Cicero's *de consiliis suis* published posthumously by his son (first draft perhaps written as early as 57). In it Cicero takes up in some form the accusation against Crassus and Caesar (both now dead too): Ascon. 83.2-4; 83.23-25C; Cassius Dio 39.10.2-3; Plut., *Crass.* 13. See, however, Broughton, *TAPA* 67 (1936), 41-2: the accusation need not have been much stronger than 'their actions made it possible'. Probably unknown to Sallust, who completed the *Bellum Catilinae* sometime in 42-41.