

Abolition of DIA Is Recommended

By Jim Adams
Associated Press

The staff of the House intelligence committee is recommending that the Defense Intelligence Agency be abolished and that stiff sanctions be imposed on government employees, including members of Congress, for leaking secret information.

Another recommendation calls for the House to create a permanent intelligence oversight committee and empower it to publicize

secrets if a majority of the panel voted to do so.

The recommendations accompany a 338-page final report, approved by the House committee, 9 to 4, on Friday. The report estimates that U.S. intelligence costs total \$10 billion a year, three or four times the amount listed in the annual defense appropriations bill.

White House press secretary Ron Nessen said President Ford had not seen the House intelligence committee report. Nessen refused to comment on it.

"The premature release of the preliminary draft of the committee report is in violation of a security agreement which the White House understood it had with the committee for the handling of classified material," Nessen said, adding he spoke for the President.

"This unauthorized release raises serious questions about how classified material can be handled by Congress when the national security is at stake."

Nessen said the President is still working on his recommendations for overhauling

the nation's intelligence system and that they should be ready within weeks.

Meanwhile, FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley warned yesterday that expanded congressional oversight of his agency could jeopardize its investigative work.

Kelley told the Senate Government Operations Committee the number of domestic FBI investigations has been reduced and said that increasing congressional requests for information and

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testimony as well as new laws protecting civil liberties are hampering the bureau's ability to carry out its tasks.

The House committee's recommendations do not call for prohibitions against covert U.S. operations, but would require that they be approved by the entire National Security Council.

The staff recommends that the DIA be abolished and that its functions, including the military attache program, be divided between the Central Intelligence Agency and the office of the Secretary of Defense.

Another recommendation calls for the separation of the National Security Agency from the military. The electronic-intelligence agency would be made an independent civilian agency with a mandate to emphasize the gathering of diplomatic and economic information.

The committee report also contains the following:

—A 1973 CIA memorandum says Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) advised the agency on how to try to prevent a CIA official from testifying at a Senate hearing on covert CIA operations in Chile. Jackson denied that he had done anything to protect the agency, saying he gave procedural advice.

—U.S. intelligence failed to predict the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia largely because it lost track of an entire Soviet division in Poland. It also failed to anticipate India's explosion of a nuclear device.

—Kurdish rebels in Iraq suffered more than 100,000 casualties in their rebellion.



By Joe Heiberger—The Washington Post

CIA Director William E. Colby fields questions from reporters.

The CIA supplied weapons to them and then withdrew U.S. support abruptly at the request of the shah of Iran. The House committee report

said that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger received three valuable rugs as a gift from Kurdish rebel leader Mustafa Barzani. A State

Department spokesman confirmed yesterday that Kissinger received one rug and that Kissinger turned it over to the White House in compliance with a law prohibiting government officials from keeping gifts from foreign officials. The spokesman denied that Mrs. Kissinger had received a necklace from Barzani.

The exact amount that the defense appropriations bill allocates to intelligence is classified, but the report implies that the CIA has told congressional committees in secret that the figure is in the neighborhood of \$3 billion annually.

In claiming that true intelligence costs may total \$10 billion, the report suggests that CIA figures for intelligence do not include money spent on activities such as accounting and military missions that are not officially considered intelligence operations but do serve intelligence purposes.

The money in the defense bill also does not include intelligence spending for the FBI, the State Department and several smaller civilian units.

A House intelligence committee source said the report includes a letter from the NSC director saying that telephone conversations of American citizens had been monitored in the past but that the practice has been stopped.

Criminal penalties are recommended by the staff against anyone who releases the names of intelligence agents or other secret information.

The report also provides for censure and possible removal

from committees of members of Congress who disclose such information.

Last year, Rep. Michael J. Harrington (D-Mass.) was criticized by some House members for releasing secret information about the CIA's involvement in Chile. He was formally charged in a petition by another congressman who asked the House Ethics Committee to penalize Harrington for violating House rules. The committee rejected the charge on a technicality.

While recommending such sanctions for improper release of information, the staff recommends that a permanent House intelligence committee be authorized to decide whether to publicly disclose secret information.

Under another recommendation, if the committee rejected a request by a member of Congress to disclose publicly what he or she considers improper activity, the member would have the right to ask for a secret session of the full House to consider the request.