

Jack Anderson's Washington Merry-go-round

BY JACK ANDERSON
With Les Whitten

WASHINGTON — In past columns, we have exposed the close ties between the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and some of the world's most notorious secret police. These foreign police, we charged, operate inside the United States with the full knowledge and cooperation of the CIA.

Intelligence sources tell us that the CIA has even condoned violations of U.S. laws by such police agencies as Chile's DINA and South Korea's KCIA. The CIA, in turn, is allowed to operate in their countries on the same basis.

For example, the Iranian secret police force, SAVAK, was actually organized and trained by the CIA. SAVAK's bag of tricks, like the CIA's, includes illegal break-ins, wiretaps and forgeries. SAVAK agents, like their CIA counterparts, also hide behind various "covers."

Most SAVAK agents in this country pretend to be diplomats. They operate under the direction of Mansur Rafizadeh, who claims to be an "attache" with Iran's United Nations mission.

Documents from SAVAK's own secret files, obtained by trusted sources and verified by other reliable sources, describe how its agents have the run of Iranian embassies and consulates around the world.

A secret memorandum to all Iran's ambassadors, signed by Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalabarti, instructs them to "treat (SAVAK agents) as you do other members of the consulate." SAVAK operatives "should be allowed

to attend all meetings which are regularly held," directs the foreign minister, "... so that they would be informed of the current affairs of the embassy."

On a recent occasion, a SAVAK agent in diplomatic disguise got carried away and granted an interview to a reporter. He received a secret reprimand from Tehran.

The secret message complained that he had given the reporter his "real name and submitted information which was not advisable to mention." Future interviews, declared the message, "should either be handled by the ambassador or the person in charge."

Only in an emergency, when a legitimate diplomat is unavailable, can SAVAK agents now speak to the press. But they must use "an assumed name" and make sure headquarters is "consulted beforehand."

The secret SAVAK papers indicate that the agents spend much of their time recruiting informants. One memorandum from Tehran warns SAVAK agents of the dangers of paying informants by checks, which can be traced too easily. This makes the "security of the operations and sources vulnerable," cautions the memo.

Therefore, the memo adds, it will be "necessary for operational leaders to make arrangements to travel to their respective territories... in order to pay the sources' salaries and operations expenses in cash."

Most SAVAK informants, according to

our sources, are used to infiltrate dissident student groups such as the World Confederation of Iranian Students (National Union). This is the group that occupied the Iranian embassy in Geneva last June and staged a noisy protest in Baltimore against the award of an honorary doctorate degree to the shah's sister by Johns Hopkins University.

No less than the shah, meanwhile, has acknowledged that SAVAK agents are "checking up on anybody who becomes affiliated with circles, organizations hostile to my country."

Footnote: Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., who heads a House investigations subcommittee, has assured our associate Joe Spear there will be a full congressional investigation of foreign intelligence operations in the United States. Rep. Donald Fraser, D-Minn., has already asked the CIA about its arrangements with foreign intelligence agencies.

MAVERICK BATTLE: Deep inside the Pentagon, a bitter battle is raging between two of the Navy's most respected mavericks, Adm. Hyman Rickover and cost-cutter Gordon Rule.

Rule has urged the Navy to pay a huge claim to the giant Tenneco conglomerate for cost overrun claims on ships being built at the firm's Newport News shipyards. Rickover wants to pay Tenneco only what the contracts and substantiated claims call for.

In a classified memo to Navy officials, Rule belittled Rickover's attempts to make Tenneco stick to the original deal. At best, argued Rule, the Navy had a 25

per cent chance of beating Tenneco in the courts. In addition, he charged, one of Rickover's aides had "usurped negotiating authority" and the admiral was making "frenzied" efforts to cover it up.

Rickover promptly shot back a memo to Chief of Materials F.H. Michaelis charging Rule was committing a "gross injustice" against his aide. Rule, the admiral fumed, was using "unsupported allegations to justify the unwarranted payment of tens of millions of dollars of taxpayer funds" to Tenneco.

The firm, roared Rickover, has made "public attacks on the Navy... threatened to stop work on Navy contracts and... been highly critical of me and my staff and even lobbied against my most recent appointment."

As a result of the behind-the-scenes flap, Adm. Michaelis has issued orders stripping Rule of his authority as the contract supervisor on an important Tenneco claim.