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# CBS CONFIRMS CIA TIES

By ROBERT SCHERER

LOS ANGELES — Richard Salant, president of CBS News, says a network investigation has revealed four areas of CIA contact with the CBS News Division.

Salant, president of CBS News since 1961, said in an interview yesterday that these practices occurred in the 50s and early 60s and that in those cases in which he had knowledge, he stopped the practice.

Salant's remarks were made while he was attending a CBS affiliates' meeting here.

Salant said the investigation, ordered because of persistent rumors of CIA infiltration, revealed that it was standard practice for

CIA agents to monitor the reports of CBS correspondents as they were filed to the New York and Washington offices.

## UNAVAIL

The correspondents did not know that they were being monitored by the CIA, and reports that were not aired, as well as those that were, Salant said.

In addition, CBS provided the CIA with outlines of their (unedited) portions of their film footage, Salant said. The agency was particularly interested in footage of news and demonstrations aired so that they could identify participants.

"I found that it was the practice for the CIA station to

ask for and get outlines from abroad," Salant said. Salant said he ordered a halt to the practice.

It also was common practice at CBS to have foreign correspondents debriefed by the CIA, Salant described the process.

"In the years when we brought all of our correspondents back from all over the world to do the year-end broadcast, I found that it was traditional practice for them to get invited and accepted the invitation to have a debriefing session with Allen Dulles, then chief of the CIA," Salant recounted his own personal contacts with the CIA.

One week after he took over as president of CBS News in 1961, he received a cryptic call from a CIA representative in New York who, according to Salant, referred to the existing relationship between the agency and CBS and stated that "Michaelson" knew all about it.

Sig Michaelson, president of CBS News before Salant, has been reported to have been a CIA contact at CBS.

Salant said he never formed "alter" of the investigation or its findings, and he would not confirm whether the purported meeting between Paley, Michaelson and the CIA agents took place.

But he did confirm the existence of a working arrangement at that time between CBS and the CIA, and Michaelson's role in it, as reported in

in February of last year, a CBS news report by Daniel Schorr quoted Michaelson as saying that CBS Chairman William Paley called Michaelson into his office in October 1964, to meet with CIA officials.

in that Schorr report, Paley denied that the meeting had taken place.

It was at the time of that report that Salant ordered his investigation. He said he had his investigators not to interview Paley because Paley would change his story.

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