## It's Time the CIA Came In From the Colo



intelligence failures, and begged the umbrella quesquiries actually took place, but their focus was on OR YEARS BEFORE this week's announcetion of the CIA, the agency's friends and enemies were calling for investigations into its ment of a wholesale congressional evaluamission and value. A few half-hearted in-

an agency that has remained largely unchanged since amine the structure, effectiveness, cost, and future of tion of the CIA's continued existence. posed a 17-member non-partisan commission to ex-Now, however, Sen. John Warner, (R-Va.) has pro-

viability not only or the care, and civilian intelligence agencies now under the gun.

Any threatened bureaucracy circles the wagons as task in reconciling conflicting reports concerning the viability not only of the CIA, but of 11 other military fense Secretary Les Aspin, will have an unenviable posed open-ended investigation broadly acceptable The commission's putative chairman, former De-

the CIA has done in the past over lesser issues. This is a normal human trait when jobs are on the line, and Director James Woolsey's CIA can be expected to resey's own resignation. even declined to dismiss or demote anyone in connecsist close, even non-hostile, examination. Woolsey Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) to call for Wooltion with the Ames debacle — an action that has led

so far that has been tepid at best commission inquiries depends to some extent on the degree of support rendered by the White House, and What success the agency will have in deflecting The composition of the commission is crucial to a

as a Central Intelligence Agen-cy officer for 22 years, will publish his seventy-third nov-el, "Ixtapa," in November. E. Howard Hunt, who served

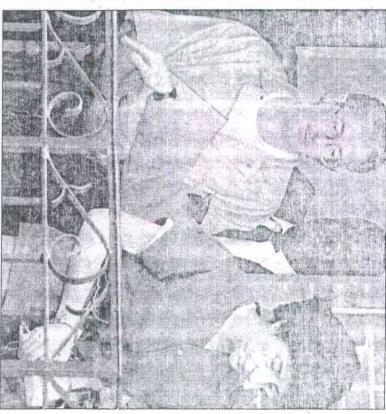
congressional and public attitudes and make the prodrich Ames and his wife earlier this year to crystallize despite the Cold War's end, it took the arrests of Alits inception 47 years ago. One may ask, "What took Congress so long?" and a reasonable answer is that and hangers-on who ty of the Republic dealing with nothing sions. They will be mittees and commisgovernment comcomprise so many than the usua vated citizens rather White House, eight Nine members are thoroughgoing ex-amination of the less than the securi-Beltway has-beens partriotically motitelligent, full-time, members will be inhave to hope that all to be selected by the Cold War world by Congress, and we

making National Secode-breaking, code Agency, and the the CIA engage in of commission reare a natural subject gence community the entire intellifense Intelligence foreign espionage, the Pentagon's De-VIEW. Appropriations for Not only does

curity Agency do likewise, and togeth-

some informed accounts estimated 20,000-person CIA. Though budgets remain secret, the combined cost of our intelligence effort is stupefyingly high—as much as \$3 billion—by er employ at least twice as many persons as does the

Armes, before and after his exposure should be critical The almost laughable mishandling of Aldrich



Moscow mole Aldrich Ames of the CIA and his wife Rosario under arrest last March.

ly examined by the commission, for it reveals at best a general laissez-faire attitude by his superiors, at the superiors on criminality. The commission must determine how Ames could be un served as Moscow's mole. And that determination challenged, even promoted, during the years he

A33