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**Proxmire says calls  
to abolish CIA are  
foolish, dangerous**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., a leading critic of the Central Intelligence Agency, said Sunday that calls for abolishing the CIA are "foolish and dangerous."

"To disband the CIA and give the military intelligence agencies free reign could result in a new cycle of ominous threat estimates followed by a dramatic increase in the defense budget," Proxmire said.

"Talk of disbanding the CIA is unreasonable," Proxmire said in a speech prepared for Senate delivery Monday and released Sunday.

Strong measures must be taken to insure that future violations of the law or good sense can not occur," Proxmire said. "Criminal penalties must be written into law."

"But disbanding the CIA would shut our eyes and ears during a period of tension in the Middle East and elsewhere," Proxmire said.

"The CIA is the only organization that can provide this data without self-serving biases," he said.

He said military intelligence services are subject to a number of strong pressures including "the natural tendency to inflate the foreign military threat and get more money from Congress."