

Claim That Probes Hurt CIA Disputed

By Jack Anderson
and Les Whitten

CIA chief William E. Colby has complained that the investigations into CIA activities are impairing U.S. intelligence efforts.

This is disputed by our sources on the inside, who insist that the CIA hasn't been seriously hampered in gathering the intelligence that really counts.

Most vital information needed to safeguard the nation is provided by planes, satellites, ships and stations loaded with technological wonders.

Through these magic eyes and ears, the CIA has been able to eavesdrop on conversations inside the Kremlin, photograph Soviet naval movements clearly enough to identify individual sailors and calculate where every factory in Russia is located, what it produces and how much it produces.

The hullabaloo over CIA abuses hasn't stopped the spy satellites from spinning around the earth several times a day and photographing the sights below. Nor has it kept the spy planes from completing their usual missions.

In aerial photographs of Somalia, Africa, for example, ana-

lysts first spotted a huge hole on the side of a hill. The aerial shots of Soviet ships in the area also disclosed some peculiar packing crates that the CIA had seen before.

Nations, like individuals, have certain habits, and the Soviet Union had a habit of crating technological gear in special crates. A whole section of the CIA is devoted to what insiders call "crateology."

By examining the photographs of the crates and noting a new excavation site, the CIA concluded that the Soviets were establishing a missile storage base in Somalia.

The Soviets are now fully aware of the techniques that the CIA used to spot their missile storage site. For that matter, the Soviets know far more about CIA operations than do the American people.

The investigations on Capitol Hill may hamper the CIA in abusing its powers but not in collecting intelligence. The CIA never had a license to violate the law. By overstepping its legal and proper bounds, the CIA brought the spotlight upon itself.

Strange Story—American authorities on Guam have called for an investigation of charges that several refugees were

drugged last spring to prevent them from returning to their homeland.

The refugees, now awaiting repatriation, insist they were doped and hauled to Guam under duress. Their strange story sufficiently impressed Norman Sweet, then the top refugee authority on Guam, that he fired off a confidential cable to the State Department requesting a "thorough investigation of the charges."

The cable, which was sent through military channels on July 26, included a detailed statement from 13 refugees. According to their account, they had been caught up in the evacuation from Vietnam but had reconsidered and had asked to be sent home.

Instead, "three American colonels" told them they would have to continue with 2,000 other refugees from Thailand to Guam. When the 13 protested, the colonels allegedly "claimed they would send us to jail... We agreed to be sent to jail in Thailand. They stated they would shoot us. We knelt down accepting the execution."

Later that evening, the disaffected refugees charged, the Americans "hand-locked each of us and carried us to a room where we received sleep-induc-

ing injections... after we're awake (the next day) we realized that we were lying on a red-colored ground full of dust. We're then told that we arrived" in Guam.

They complained that the injections had caused pain and paralysis. So they were taken to a dispensary where, they said, "an American Dr. Captain asked us what kind of sickness. We told him about the story of our sleep-inducing injections. Unfortunately, he did not believe that."

"He asked us to undress so that he could see the injections. After discovering four injections on each of us, two on the arms and two on the thighs, then he believed the story and understood our situation."

Footnote: A spokeswoman for the refugee program said similar charges had been raised earlier by Vietnamese airmen. It was determined that they were under the control of the Thais at all times. The United States, therefore, had no part in their drugging if it occurred. The 13 repatriates who have now brought charges, she said, may be some of the original complainants. If so, the previous investigation will stand.

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