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CIA Budget Secrecy Hit In Congress

United Press International

The new chairman of a House subcommittee on U.S. intelligence agencies says he doesn't know if the taxpayers are getting their money's worth because only the Budget Bureau and the Kremlin know how much the country spends on intelligence.

"Perhaps they are the only ones," said Rep. Lucien N. Nedzi (D-Mich.). "We simply don't have that kind of detailed information."

Since August, Nedzi has headed an Armed Services Committee panel charged with overseeing intelligence work. But he told a team of United Press International newsmen in an interview: "I have to be candid and tell you I don't know whether we are getting our money's worth."

When asked what the United States spends on activities of the Central Intelligence Agency and other government intelligence work, Nedzi quoted a recent Newsweek magazine estimate of \$6 billion and said, "I can't confirm that at this point."

Recent Senate debate suggested that intelligence is costing the United States \$4 billion or more annually.

"I think that the enemy knows what our budget is and the total number of people working, or at least close enough that certainly that information, at least, should be made public," said Nedzi.