

# Spying Data Retained by Army

The Army announced yesterday that it has discovered counterintelligence files on political dissenters that were supposed to have been destroyed under a 1971 Defense Department directive.

The announcement by Army Secretary Howard H. Callaway indicates that the files on dissenters, contained in some 400 microfilms, are now being destroyed and that an investigation of the episode is in progress.

Callaway said the files, which contain the results of military surveillances of American civilians conducted prior to 1971, relate mainly to civil disturbances. A Defense Department spokesman said the civilian spying by the military was also targeted against draft resistance movements, GI coffeehouses and other anti-Vietnam war activities.

The announcement said that the Army "has ascertained that the files of one of its Washington, D.C., offices contains some information relating to activities of American civilians which should have been purged before now . . ."

Callaway advised Congress of the existence of the surveillance files in 1971 and promised that the material would be expunged from its records.

Late last month, however, the Army discovered that some 400 microfilms of files were still in its active files. Material had, in fact, been added to the file subsequent to the pledge that the files would be purged, the Army learned.

Callaway stressed, however, that the Army has not carried out any surveillance of civilians since the 1971 decision to prohibit it. The change in policy was prompted by congressional hearings and press accounts of the military spying program.

Army officials said the lapse in management to counter intelligence record-keeping policies came to light within the Defense Department. An inspector-general investigation was immediately ordered.

A number of civil damage suits have been filed against the Defense Department as an outgrowth of the surveillances which were conducted throughout the 1960s. The suits call upon the Army for

production of any records in its files that might relate to individual cases.

"We're checking to see whether this came about through inadvertence or whether it was done deliberately," said one Army official. "There is nothing at this time to suggest that there was any illegal surveillance or file-gathering."

In a related development, a senior government intelligence official acknowledged yesterday that the CIA had accumulated at least two sets of files on American citizens who figured in civil disturbances and war protests in the late 1960s and early in the Nixon administration.

One of those files was compiled in response to requests by the Justice Department for overseas checks on U.S. citizens who were targets of internal security investigations. This was a list variously estimated at 9,000 to 12,000 names.

Another list of some 10,000 names was also assembled by the CIA as a result of requests by domestic intelligence agencies for information from abroad on U.S. citizens. The New York Times said yesterday that well-placed sources told it a low-echelon employee of the CIA sought but did not receive permission to destroy the files which the newspaper described as "illegal."

In another development, AFL-CIO President George Meany commented yesterday on a report in The Washington Post that the CIA read his correspondence with two international labor aides, Jay Lovestone and Irving Brown.

"Obviously I have no way of knowing if my mail was surreptitiously intercepted or read by the CIA or anyone else. If this did happen (and I have no reason to believe that it did) I would resent it very much.

"I am opposed," Meany said, "to the illegal interception of the mail of any American citizen by anyone at any time for any purpose."

## Britons, Flattered, Amused At Report of CIA Spying

By Bernard D. Nossiter  
Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, Jan. 10—People here are chortling with flattered delight today over the news that the CIA wants to spy on British industry.

The story was headlined in the Evening Standard—"CIA 'Spied on Britain's Secret Trains'"—and front-paged in the Daily Telegraph. It could be the biggest booster to this country's sagging morale since the national soccer team won the World Cup in 1966.

Britons are accustomed to hearing that their plant is outmoded, their management feckless and their labor force fractious, that the technological supremacy of the Victorian era has long passed to Germany, the United States and Japan.

The notion that Washington wants to pry out the secrets of Britain's temperamental telephones, awkward airports and strike-ridden coal mines produced waves of laughter here.

"Give them all our secrets," said an official at the Department of Industry. "Then they'll be 10 years behind, too."

The supposed target of the CIA snooping is foreign transport systems, and British Rail is quietly proud of two prototypes developed at its Derby research center. The diesel-powered high-

speed train can travel 125 miles an hour and the gas-turbine advanced passenger train 155.

But there is nothing secret about either, and British Rail collaborates closely with Washington's Department of Transportation on both. Sidney Preston, press officer for the system here, says that DOT has spent about \$500,000 buying research from British Rail in the past few years, and he would like to sell even more.

Just last week, Roger Lewis, president of Amtrak, rode one train and inspected the other.

"There is such an open exchange," Preston said, "it is difficult to see what could be gained by spying. They must be crowding out the Reds under our beds. We are all laughing this morning."

"I should have thought the CIA had better things to do," he said. "It's much easier to get things directly by asking for them."

Samuel Brittan, financial columnist for the Financial Times, dryly observed, "We all have our funny little way of earning a living. Perhaps it's Dr. Kissinger's revenge for Healey's oil plan."

(Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey made a counterproposal Tuesday to Kissinger's plan for coopera-

tion among oil-consuming nations.)

Inevitably, however, someone in the Labor Party worries that Britain is secretly run from Langley, Va. Member of Parliament William Malloy raised the alarm today. He said he would question Prime Minister Harold Wilson about the report.

"These allegations must be thoroughly tested," Malloy thundered. "I consider the situation so serious that it merits an approach on the prime minister-President level."

### 'Silly . . . to Snoop,' Bonn Official Says

French and West German officials yesterday scoffed at reports that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency might have been spying on their mass-transit systems.

"It would be rather silly for the CIA to snoop around our transport systems, as we officially exchange information with the Americans," said an official at Bonn's Ministry for Research and Technology.

A spokesman for the Paris Metro said simply: "We don't have many secrets."

Tom Bruden

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# Colby's Report: A Charge Against Helms

Before Richard Helms arrived home last week from his post as ambassador to Iran, he had already learned a fact he could hardly believe: His old friend and successor as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, William Colby had turned over to the Justice Department evidence suggesting that while in CIA Helms had authorized illegal activities.

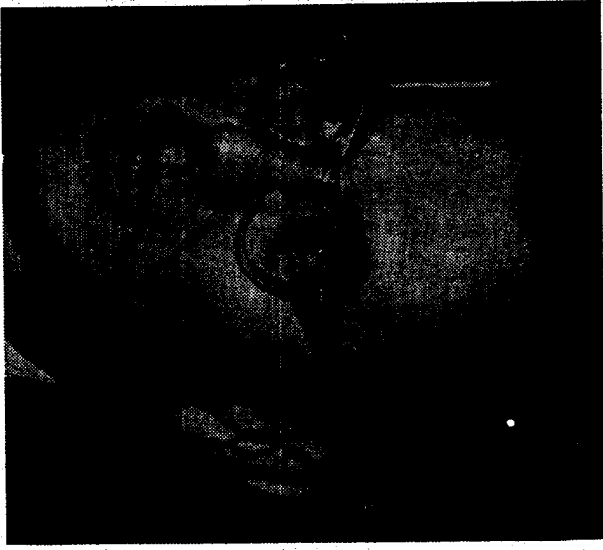
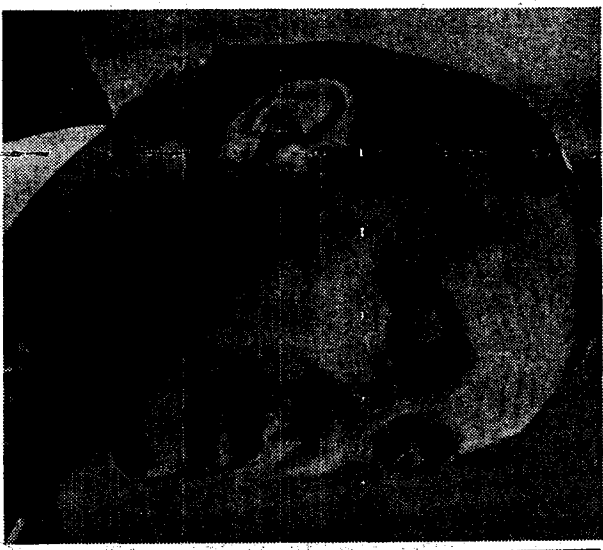
Moreover, Helms learned, Colby's action was not the result of an order or in response to subpoena. It was voluntary.

The moment Richard Nixon left the White House, Colby began an investigation of CIA activities during the Nixon years. He discovered operations he thought were of questionable legality and turned the facts over to Justice. He did so even though the activities he described were covert and had been conducted in Helms' official capacity.

This was the act which set in motion the chain of events leading to charges that the CIA had violated its charter. Colby's in-house investigation led to leaks; these leaks and Colby's report to the Justice Department led to a request from President Ford for a fuller report. This second report led to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's suggestion for a blue-ribbon committee to conduct an investigation. Meantime, the agency is paralyzed and probably could not conduct a major covert operation now if one were required.

Helms was not the only man to be dumbfounded by Colby's conduct. To one high official who asked him point-blank why he did it, Colby cited the post-Watergate climate in the country. It was his duty, he thought, to restore the morale of the agency and the country's confidence in the agency, and the best way to do that was to stick within the law.

"The things the agency used to get



"Helms (left) was not the only man to be dumbfounded by Colby's conduct."

by with and the stories or non-stories it used to tell the Congress are no longer possible," he told another senator official who expressed dismay. "From now on, we have to operate according to the book; and if the book won't allow us to operate, then the country has to decide either to put us out of business or to change the book."

The "book" is CIA's charter which gives it power to conduct espionage and other covert operations, but prohibits domestic activity except that necessary to protect its own security and sources of intelligence. Helms is presumably relying on this exception

to the no-domestic-activity law when he says he authorized no illegal activities.

And if the blue-ribbon committee suggested by Kissinger can pre-empt the field and keep the Congress from investigating, Helms will maintain this defense before friendly and understanding inquirers, most of whom were associated with CIA in a pre-Watergate climate.

Meantime, Colby's initiative has bro- ken the old school the which has long bound the agency's chief officials. He and Helms were both veterans of the wartime Office of Strategic Services.

After the war, Colby worked for a time in the law firm of Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan, chief of the wartime espionage service, who lobbied hard for a CIA and was broken-hearted when he was not named to lead it.

By the time Colby joined the agency, Helms was already on the way up. But there was never any enmity between the two. One veteran of CIA explained the strange course of events as follows: "Helms had to conduct the agency under Nixon, and Colby had to conduct it after Nixon. Those two time frames are really a couple of centuries apart."