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Inquiry into CIA ordered

Ford seeks spying report from Colby

From Wire Services

Washington—President Ford ordered an internal inquiry and three congressional probes were promised yesterday into charges of widespread domestic spying by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Ford's call for an investigation, announced to newsmen by Ron Nessen, the White House press secretary, at Vail, Colo., where the President is on a ski-werk vacation, came on a day of heightened congressional concern and protest over the spying.

Mr. Nessen told newsmen that the President had ordered William E. Colby, the current CIA director, to submit his report through the National Security Council, headed by the Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger.

Mr. Kissinger, in turn, asked for an accounting by the ambassador to Iran, Richard M. Helms, who was the CIA director during the period in which the alleged unlawful activities were said to have occurred.

Sources said Mr. Kissinger would assemble information from Mr. Colby and others, probably within 48 hours.

Ford advised

A spokesman for Mr. Kissinger said earlier in the day that the secretary himself "has never seen any survey of American citizens by the CIA and he doesn't know if any such surveys exist."

Mr. Nessen told reporters in Vail that Mr. Colby had advised Mr. Ford last week that the New York Times would publish an account of domestic CIA spying and assured him that "this does not involve the Ford administration."

A Justice Department official said earlier yesterday that Laurence H. Silberman, the acting attorney general, "has been in touch" with Mr. Colby and "the matter is under review."

But Mr. Nessen said it was incorrect to conclude that the Justice Department was taking its own action. "The Justice Department has no role at all at the moment, he said. Mr. Nessen insisted, however, that "there was no order to the Justice Department to lay off."

Mr. Silberman, filling in for the vacationing Attorney general, William B. Saxbe, confirmed later that he had communicated with Mr. Colby, but said the department itself was not pursuing the matter. He declined to elaborate.

Mr. Colby and other CIA officials, meanwhile, refrained from public comment as they huddled at the agency's headquarters in nearby Langley, Va., to discuss developments triggered by the New York Times account, published Sunday.

The Times reported that the CIA had maintained files on at

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President orders probe of CIA domestic spying

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least 10,000 Americans and committed a number of other unlawful acts, including break-ins and wiretapping, in a campaign aimed at the anti-war movement during the administration of former President Nixon.

"Shocked by revelations

Senator John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.) said he was "shocked by the revelations regarding CIA activities in the United States, and declared, "It is my intention . . . to have the Foreign Relations Committee look into these matters when the new Congress convenes next year.

Mr. Sparkman, who will be chairman of that panel, said, "This is a domestic matter, but there have been other operations of the CIA in the foreign field that have disturbed the members of the committee.

"We ought to know all we can get about the CIA's operations, both at home and abroad," in considering new legislative controls, Mr. Sparkman said.

Separate hearings were vowed by Senator John C. Stennis (D., Miss.), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Representative Lucien N. Nedzi (D., Mich.), chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence.

Mr. Stennis declared, "The CIA must strictly observe the limitations of its statutory au-

thority. Such power does not include the operation of a domestic intelligence system.

Mr. Stennis said he has no fears that any violations now are occurring.

Belief in Colby

"It is my firm belief that Mr. Colby . . . has been faithful in observing the basic charter," he said.

Mr. Nedzi said his hearings would be conducted "in a measured, comprehensive manner, letting the chips fall where they may." In the meantime, he said, Americans should not make "hasty judgments . . .

Some have already assumed the allegations and implications to be facts."

Mr. Sparkman said his committee would call for testimony from Mr. Helms, Mr. Colby and John A. McCone, another former director. Mr. McCone, who left the agency in 1965, called Sunday for a congressional investigation and suggested the alleged operations may have been ordered by Mr. Nixon.

Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.), had urged Mr. Kissinger to demand Mr. Helms's resignation. But Mr. Anderson said Mr. Kissinger has no such intention.

The CIA is prohibited by its charter from engaging in surveillance or other counterintelligence activities on United States soil, even when foreign operatives may be involved.