

Ex-CIA chief urges domestic-spy probe

New York (AP)—John A. McCone, a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and his executive director-controller, Lyman Kirkpatrick, urged President Ford and Congress yesterday to investigate charges that the agency mounted a huge campaign against anti-war forces in the United States during the Nixon era.

"I don't think an accusation as prominently displayed as this can be refuted merely on a denial by the agency itself," Mr. McCone said. "There should be a penetrating investigation either by the Congress or by President Ford's Foreign Advisory Board."

Mr. Ford told reporters in Grand Junction, Colo., that he had received a telephone call from the CIA director, William E. Colby, assuring him that "nothing comparable to what was stated in the article was going on over there and I told him that under no circumstances would I tolerate such activities under this administration."

The President neither confirmed nor denied that he had information that activities such as those reported yesterday had occurred under President Nixon.

Study called for

Two senators—Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R., Md.) and Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.)—introduced a resolution a few months ago urging a full study of domestic intelligence activities.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, now a professor at Brown University, Providence, R.I., said: "An in-

vestigation has now become inevitable."

Both he and Mr. McCone denied separately that any such program was under way in the years they ran the agency, from 1961 to 1965.

If such a program, which yesterday's article said included compiling intelligence dossiers on at least 10,000 United States citizens including a member of Congress, came into existence, the intelligence experts blamed President Nixon.

Mr. McCone said the former chief executive was "unduly agitated" about anti-war groups and might have issued direct orders, bypassing normal agency channels.

"I was amazed to read the article, and, in my connection as director of the agency and my connection with it since, I never heard of a single instance where the CIA stepped over its charter and involved itself with the responsibilities of the FBI," he said.

"We had the closest possible relations with the FBI when I was there. What's happened since, I don't know."

"It's entirely out of character for the CIA to go beyond its charter," Mr. McCone said. "They deal with foreign intelligence."

Gathers data abroad

Mr. Kirkpatrick backed up this statement.

"To the best of my knowledge, there was never anything like this," he said. "If they did something like this, they were doing something they had no right to do and I deplore it."

The CIA gathers intelligence



JOHN A. McCONE
... headed CIA in 1961-1965

abroad and evaluates it at its headquarters in Northern Virginia. The FBI has an analogous task within the boundaries of the United States.

Before the Nixon era, intelligence sources explained, the two agencies had a very close working relationship.

This weakened, they said, when the late J. Edgar Hoover, long time director of the FBI, spurned White House demands for vigorous spy-type operations against political opponents and anti-war agitators.

The FBI, these sources said, kept a close watch on peace groups to determine whether such groups had been infiltrated by foreign agents.

Co-operation limited

The CIA's only role, they said, was to reply when asked by the FBI whether it had knowledge that any suspects were known foreign agents.

"Co-operation was limited to identifying any suspected infiltrator," they said.

It was learned that neither Richard M. Helms, CIA director after Mr. McCone and now ambassador to Iran, nor Mr. Colby had ever mentioned the program outlined by the newspaper report in conversations with their predecessors.

Mr. Kirkpatrick said, "I think the biggest misconception among Americans is concern over the CIA operating in the United States. It has, of course, things that it does in the United States as a basis for things it does abroad."

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