

PROXMIRE TO SEEK INQUIRY ON C.I.A. OVER ROLE IN U.S.

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Calls for Helms to Resign
as Envoy after Reports
of Domestic Dossiers

NYT

PROTESTS WIDESPREAD

Reaction Is Strong Among
Congress Members and
Ex-Intelligence Aides

By SEYMOUR M. HECHT

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 —
Senator William Proxmire called
today for the resignation of
Richard Helms, former Director
of Central Intelligence, as Am-
bassador to Iran and said he
would demand an investigation
by the Justice Department of
alleged domestic spying by the
C.I.A.

The New York Times re-
ported this morning that, ac-
cording to well-placed Govern-
ment sources, the C.I.A., in
direct violation of its charter,
had mounted massive, illegal
intelligence operations during
the Nixon Administration
against members of the antiwar
movement and other dissident
groups inside the United States.

Mr. Proxmire's reaction was
among widespread calls by
members of Congress and former
intelligence officials for an
investigation and hearings.

The Times's sources said that
the C.I.A. under Mr. Helms had
established intelligence files on
at least 10,000 American
citizens. Mr. Helms was named
Ambassador to Iran in Febru-
ary, 1973, after heading the
C.I.A. since 1966. Today again,
he could not be reached at the
embassy in Teheran for com-
ment.

Ready for a Trip

Charles Cline, the duty of-
ficer at the embassy, said he
had seen Mr. Helms this morn-
ing and relayed a message
from The Times, the third in
three days, asking for com-
ment on the report.

"He's out right now," Mr.

Cline said. "He's getting ready
for a trip."

It was understood that Mr.
Helms, as a matter of policy,
was reluctant to discuss a sen-
sitive subject by long-distance
telephone and had declined to
accept a call from this reporter.

In today's report, the sources
said that the C.I.A. had con-
ducted dozens of illegal activi-
ties inside the counterintelli-

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gence operations against sus-
pected foreign agents.

Under the 1947 law establish-
ing the agency, all domestic
intelligence functions, including
those aimed at suspected for-
eign agents, were to be con-
ducted by the Federal Bureau
of Investigation.

Mr. Proxmire has been a lead-
ing critic of the C.I.A. in recent
years and has pressed for pub-
lic disclosure of the secret C.I.A.
budget and co-sponsored legis-
lation that would restrict the
agency's activities.

He said in a telephone inter-
view that "the allegations indi-
cate a systematic pattern of
illegal activities that cannot be
justified in the name of national
security."

"Immediate and severe action
is necessary," the Wisconsin
Democrat said, "to preserve
confidence in the intelligence
establishment and, more impor-
tantly, to guarantee the rights
of Americans under the Fourth
Amendment."

Mr. Proxmire said he would
write Secretary of State Kissinger
tomorrow "to ask for the
immediate resignation of Am-
bassador Helms."

"I also intend to write the
Attorney General," the Senator
said, "to ask for the prompt
investigation of these allega-
tion of illegal activities by
C.I.A. agents, past or present,
and the prosecution of every
violation of the law."

Officials of the agency re-
fused to comment today, but
William E. Colby, the director
of the C.I.A. since September,
1973, when he succeeded
James R. Schlesinger, is known
to have told associates recently
that he was considering a re-
quest to the Justice Depart-
ment for legal action against
some of those who had been
involved in the alleged domes-
tic activities.

'An Outrageous Thing'

Representative Benjamin S.
Rosenthal, a member of the
House Foreign Affairs Commit-
tee, said in a telephone conver-
sation that he was planning to
write Mr. Kissinger requesting
the return of Mr. Helms for
questioning before the com-
mittee.

"This is an outrageous

thing," said the Queens Demo-
crat. "Heads are going to have
to roll if these allegations are
proven true."

Mr. Rosenthal noted that the
House Foreign Affairs Commit-
tee, now shared jurisdiction over
C.I.A. matters with the Intelli-
gence subcommittee of the
House Armed Services Com-
mittee.

Representative Lucien N.
Nedzi, Democrat of Michigan,
who is chairman of the Armed
Services Intelligence subcom-
mittee, said he wanted to "sort
this thing out and look at the
pieces."

"I'm very concerned about
it," Mr. Nedzi added.

Mr. Colby is known to have
briefed Mr. Nedzi and Senator

John C. Stennis, Democrat of
Mississippi and chairman of the
Senate Armed Services Com-
mittee, last year on the alleged
domestic spying activities. Mr.
Stennis, despite repeated re-
quests, has refused to com-
ment.

Increasing Attack

It could not be learned whe-
ther Mr. Nedzi or Mr. Stennis
shared their knowledge with
other members of the Senate
and House Intelligence subcom-
mittees, whose supervision of
C.I.A. activities has come un-

der increasing attack inside and
outside Congress.

Senator Stuart Symington,
Democrat of Missouri, who is
the second-ranking member of
the Senate Armed Services
Committee, indicated in a tele-
phone conversation today that
he had not been officially
briefed on the alleged domestic
spying.

"If the story is true," Mr.
Symington said, "and I'm
speaking as a member for many
years of the subcommittee that
is supposed to review the op-
erations of the Central Intelli-

gence Agency, it simply ver-
ifies the point that I've been
making for many years, name-
ly, that this agency does not
have good supervision, or re-
view by the Congress, or poor
review. It actually has no real
review at all."

In an interview on radio in
Raleigh, N.C., Senator Sam J.
Ervin Jr., the former chairman
of the Senate Watergate com-
mittee who is retiring from the
Senate, said he believed reports
of alleged widespread domestic
spying by the C.I.A.

The North Carolina Democrat

said he had become aware of
some unauthorized C.I.A. activi-
ties while serving with the
Watergate committee, but had
decided not to pursue them.

"Most of it had no connec-
tion with Watergate and we
had no authority to investigate
anything but the Presidential
election of 1972," Mr. Ervin
said. "I wanted the committee,
unlike the C.I.A., to stay on the
reservation."

Former Officials Comment

John A. McCone, a former
Central Intelligence director,

and Lyman B. Kirkpatrick Jr.,
a former executive director of
the agency, urged President
Ford and Congress to investi-
gate the alleged domestic spy-
ing, according to the Associated
Press.

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

Mr. Kirkpatrick, now a pro-
fessor at Brown University in
Providence, R. I., said, "An in-
vestigation has now become in-
evitable."

The two former C.I.A. offi-
cials, who left the agency in
the mid-nineteen-sixties, denied
any knowledge of illegal do-
mestic activities.

"In my connection as direc-
tor of the agency and my con-
nection with it since," said Mr.
McCone, "I never heard of a
single instance where the C.I.A.
stepped over its charter and
involved itself with the respon-
sibilities of the F.B.I."