

# WASHINGTON

## Merry-Go-Round

by Jack Anderson  
with Joe Spear



### Corruption of the CIA

WASHINGTON — Legislators investigating the CIA have admitted privately to us what they refuse to say in public — that past Presidents were fully aware of past CIA abuses and many actually have ordered some of them.

Few of the Senators and Congressmen involved in the investigations want to blame former Chief Executives for the CIA's faults. And the sworn testimony itself is vague. Indeed, there appears to have been a conspiracy to provide Presidents with "credible deniability."

It is clear to those who are looking into the matter, however, that the CIA did not operate without Presidential direction.

The agency, in short, was not out of control. To be sure, some details of their complicated schemes were never discussed with the President. But the general plots and dirty tricks appear to have emanated, for the most part, from the White House.

The abuses grew out of the Cold War, when the decision was made that the CIA should emulate the Russian KGB by intervening in the domestic affairs of foreign governments and assassinating unfriendly world leaders.

The late CIA Director Allen Dulles, says our sources, would visit the White House to brief the President. He would lean back, assume an air of mystery, and explain in an enigmatic way what the CIA was up to. The President would frequently give Dulles general instructions.

The meaning of these roundabout discussions was quite clear, but they left the President in a position to deny any direct knowledge of the CIA's activities.

This loose relationship be-

tween the White House and the CIA, say witnesses, continued through the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations. But the President who pushed the CIA to go beyond its mandate, say our sources, was Lyndon B. Johnson.

Johnson was convinced that the anti-war protesters who besieged him were stirred up by enemy agents and agitators. The people, he believed, would never turn against him of their own accord.

He instructed the CIA to find the evidence that would support his thesis. Thus began the compilation of dossiers and the massive spying on American citizens. For all their effort, however, the CIA was never able to show that the anti-war movement was supported by enemy agents.

Richard Nixon went a step further. He enlisted the CIA's help in his own domestic political problems.

In June 1973, he ordered his majordomo, H.R. "Bob" Haldeman to use the CIA's clandestine activities as an excuse to thwart the FBI's investigation of the Watergate scandal.

Haldeman called CIA Director Richard Helms and Deputy Dir. Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters to the White House and instructed them to tell acting FBI chief L. Patrick Gray that the bureau's investigation of campaign funds "laundered" in Mexico threatened to expose the CIA's secret operations there.

Walters passed the message to Gray that very day. The corruption of the CIA, guided and encouraged by four Presidents, was com-

plete.

**Tax Avoiders:** Some American-based companies pay more taxes to foreign powers than they do to Uncle Sam.

That's just one of the startling findings of a new corporate tax study done by Congressman Charles Vanik, D-Ohio. He found that 142 American-based multinational companies paid a total of \$14.4 billion to foreign governments during 1974. Yet they only forked over \$10.3 billion to the U.S. Treasury during the same period.

Eight giant corporations escaped American taxes entirely. And 18 firms paid un-

der ten per cent of their income in taxes, which is far less than what the average wage earner must pay.

The average corporate tax bill came to 22 percent of income — less than half of the 48 per cent that corporations are supposed to pay.

All of this tax-avoiding was legal, of course. The tax loopholes written into the law escape without paying their fair share.

**Diplomatic Pipeline:** Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, say our sources, has reluctantly decided not to ask for a resumption of military aid to Chile. Such assistance was cut off by Congress last December. He wanted to make the request, but dropped the idea when he heard that Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., would vehemently oppose it.

— Kissinger, meanwhile, is curious over some recent remarks of former Defense Secretary Melvin Laird. The

irrepressible Laird toured the Far East a few weeks ago and assured a Taiwan audience that America's relations with the Republic of China are as strong as ever. This is precisely the message that

Kissinger, enamored with Red China, did not want delivered. Then Laird stopped in Tokyo and asserted to a group of newsmen that it's about time congress assumed a stronger role in foreign policy.

— There was apparently a frightening moment aboard the Kissinger plane during one of his recent shuttle flights between Tel Aviv and Cairo. The smell of something burning wafted through his aircraft. After a hasty search, the culprit was finally located. It seems someone was running documents through a copying machine aboard the plane when one of the papers got stuck and began to smolder.

**Budget Fuss:** Some White House budget experts are grumbling because their superiors have refused to allow the powerful Renegotiation Board more staff members. The board reviews more than \$40 billion each year in government contracts. With a few more staffers, they say, they could save the government millions. But the Budget Office has steadfastly refused to put any more auditors on the payroll.