

Censorship of Book Is Pursued by CIA

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The Central Intelligence Agency is seeking to expunge 100 pages of a 530-page book profiling the agency's operations in the United States and abroad, attorneys for the authors said yesterday.

The book, "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," was written by former CIA analyst Victor Marchetti and John Marks, a former State Department intelligence officer and U.S. Senate aide. It is to be published by Knopf.

Melvin Wulf, chief American Civil Liberties Union attorney on the case, said he was informed by a CIA official yesterday that the agency—acting under a court injunction—would seek to eliminate nearly a fifth of the manu-

Wulf identified the CIA official as John Warner, the agency's general counsel.

A spokesman for the agency acknowledged yesterday that Warner is negotiating the terms of publication with Wulf, but said that details could not be disclosed. "There definitely are security problems," the CIA spokesman said.

Another highly placed CIA official has said that "there are very serious security problems" posed by the Marchetti-Marks manuscript in its present form.

Marchetti insisted yesterday that "there is nothing in this book that would jeopardize the national security of my country. There is nothing in the book that would jeopardize the lives of any agents, sink any ships or give away any codes."

Among the subjects with which the book deals are the CIA's role in the 1970 Chilean election, the disbursement of CIA funds to a number of world leaders, alleged misuse of the CIA director's contingency funds and internal U.S. operations of the CIA.

This is the first time, according to lawyers in the case, that a government agency has exercised prior restraint over a book under a court order.

The CIA obtained a restraining order in U.S. District Court in Alexandria in April, 1972, to prohibit Marchetti from circulating an outline of the book to publishers.

A trial was held in camera, and attorneys for the authors invoked the defense employed in the Pentagon Papers case: that censorship could be justified only if it could be shown that there might be immediate and irrevocable injury to the United States.

The court held with the CIA's argument that it could enforce the oath of secrecy that was a condition to Marchetti's employment by the agency, a decision that was appealed.

The federal appellate court found that the agency had a right to delete classified material from the book after a review prior to submission of the manuscript to its publisher. The Supreme Court declined to take jurisdiction of the matter.

Should the authors disagree with the CIA deletions there could be another flurry of litigation.