

Rotary given perspective of CIA

Frederick Post 1-19/79

While the Central Intelligence Agency is relatively new in an historical perspective to the United States, the idea behind the organization dates back to George Washington and the American Revolution, and even to warlords of the Chinese dynasties. "As long as we are dependent on other countries we need to know who's going to cut us off if we do something that they will disagree with," said Thomas H. White, assistant for Information Directorate of Administration for the CIA.

Guest speaker at the Frederick Rotary Club meeting at the Holiday Inn Wednesday, White states that in order for the nation to be strong politically and economically intelligence is a necessity. "The purpose of intelligence in a free society is to keep us free," he added.

Recently the CIA has begun a public relations campaign to educate the people of the United States concerning actions of the organization. "We're trying to rekindle the faith of the American people in the CIA. By explaining what kind of people we are, what our motives are and what our activities are we hope to set people at ease," said White.

"It's a sign of changing times that I'm here," he said. The CIA was created in the midst of a cold war. The Russian Army was gaining strength and power. Only the name of the director of the CIA was known. "No one wanted to hear about the CIA," said White. "Now after several wars and social revolutions we can no longer remain silent. We must account for what we're doing."

The "intelligence business" concerns approximately three areas including the collection of overt and covert information, analysis and production leading to final reports, and the influencing of events. "The 'James Bond' end of the business is very small," said White.

"We are an independent agency, not a government toy," said White. The CIA has no police functions, it does not investigate crimes and members of the organization do not carry weapons, he added. The CIA is involved in investigation of the extent of another country's military power which enables the United States to build arms and military of equal size and power. They watch political trends in other countries that officials in this country may aid in negotiations in avoiding internal eruptions. The CIA is also involved in guarding the policies established by the SALT Treaty with Russia.

"People are never opposed to intelligence in war time, but there are many objections to the organization in times of peace. We are not the political or economic leaders we once were," said White. "In order to regain this dominance the U.S. must establish clout through knowledge that the Central Intelligence Agency can provide."

Thomas White received his BA degree in accounting in 1960 from Brigham

Young University and his Juris Doctor in 1963 from the University of Southern California. He served with the USAF as a Ground Controlled Approach Tower Control Operator from 1950 to 1954. He is a member of the California State Bar and practiced law in Southern California prior to entering government service, specializing in Municipal Law. During this time he served as District Attorney of Corona, California.

Mr. White entered government service in 1967 serving with the Foreign Service of the Department of State. He

filled overseas assignments in Latin America and Vietnam. In July of 1975 he joined the Central Intelligence Agency as an Associate Legislative Counsel responsible for liaison with members and committees in Congress. He currently serves as the Assistant for Information in the Directorate of Administration and is responsible for compliance with the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts.

White and his wife Kathleen live in Braddock Heights with their four daughters.

Colby to speak at Mount Feb. 8

FPost 1/18/79

The former director of The Central Intelligence Agency, William E. Colby, will give a lecture, "Intelligence Out of the Shadows," at Mount Saint Mary's College on Thursday, Feb. 8.

Colby will speak at the Memorial Gymnasium at 8 p.m. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited.

Director of the CIA from 1973 to 1976, Colby served during a time of unprecedented public investigations of the Agency's secret operations.

Colby worked to protect the CIA's clandestine activities.

Colby is the author of a book titled, *Honorable Men — My Life in the CIA*.

For additional information contact George Gelles, Mount Saint Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727. Phone (301) 447-6122 Ext. 361.