

# Tofte Demands CIA Chief Say Whether U.S. Homes Are Searched

Post 8/13/66  
Associated Press

Hans V. Tofte demanded at a Central Intelligence Agency inquiry yesterday that CIA Chief Richard Helms say whether his hush-hush agency illegally enters the homes of Americans.

Tofte, currently under suspension with pay from his job

in the spy agency, reported this after a meeting of the CIA board investigating whether he committed a security violation.

Under questioning by newsmen he also said he had written to a friend about the case. The Des Moines Register and the Minneapolis Tribune reported that he claimed to have information about foreign operations that would embarrass the CIA.

The CIA says it found in Tofte's home a fortnight ago some classified documents taken there in violation of CIA regulations. Tofte says CIA agents should not have come into his house without legal search authority.

## Cites Agency Charter

CIA's charter, Tofte said, authorizes it to operate overseas but not in the continental United States.

At yesterday's meeting of the board of inquiry, Tofte related, "I made one inquiry: 'Has the Central Intelligence Agency now stopped entering people's homes illegally minus a warrant and without due processes of law within the continental limits of the United States of America?'"

The veteran CIA employe said he demanded that Helm's "answer yes or no in person and in public."

"All of a sudden the meeting was over," he added. "I was escorted out—the whole meeting lasted six minutes."

A CIA spokesman declined comment.

A Danish-born veteran of cloak-and-dagger ventures dating back to World War II, Tofte, 55, has been on the CIA rolls at about \$25,000 a year.

His exact duties with the super secret organization have not been disclosed.

## Accident or Design

Tofte said yesterday he did not know whether it was by accident or design that a fellow CIA employe first entered his home July 23 when the premises were up for rent. CIA's version is that the employe was genuinely apartment-hunting, happened to see the CIA documents there, and came back with a CIA security man the next day to pick them up.

Tofte did say he had written a letter to a Mason City, Iowa, friend concerning his case.

The Des Moines and Minneapolis newspapers, in a Washington dispatch by Clark Mollenhoff, said Tofte indicated in a three-page letter that he had inside information about the Bay of Pigs, the Dominican Republic, and Vietnamese operations that could embarrass the CIA.

## About 'Blunders'

Mollenhoff said that Tofte revealed in the letter "that his analysis of the Bay of Pigs and serious blunders in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam" were among papers seized.

The dispatch said Tofte had written the friend, Charles E. Strickland, asking that he inform friends of Tofte's controversy with the CIA. The story added:

"He indicated he hopes to force an expose and a cleanup of top personnel at the CIA, and anticipates a difficult and bitter fight." Mollenhoff wrote that most of the letter represented an attack on CIA Director Richard Helms and carried implication that Helms was one of "those who planned and executed the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion." The letter said the others are still there "in bigger and better jobs."